THE NEW
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A file photo of a policeman keeping vigil in Karachi

HINDU TEMPLE ATTACKED WITH ROCKET LAUNCHERS IN PAK

A Hindu temple was attacked with rocket launchers by a gang of dacoits in the southern Sindh province of Pakistan on Sunday, in the second such incident of vandalism of a place of worship belonging to the minority community in less than two days. The assailants attacked the small temple built by the local Hindu community and the adjoining homes belonging to members of the community in the Kashmore area of the Sindh province | **P11**

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17th July 2023

Chief Guest

Shri Bhupesh Baghel

Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh

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16

Participants
More than 30 lakh

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Competition Levels
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Zone | Development Block | District | Division | State

37748/2

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kotak Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited

Regd office: 27BKC, C 27, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai – 400 051
Corporate office: Kotak Infiniti, Bldg No 21, Infinity Park, General AK Vaidya Marg, Malad (E), Mumbai – 400 097 www.kotak.com

AUCTION - NOTICE

That the below mentioned Borrower/s had availed gold loan facility against security of the gold ornaments/ items, as specified below. The Borrower/s defaulted in due repayment of the instalments and outstanding dues and as a result of which the Bank was constrained to issue notices calling upon the Borrower/s to repay the outstanding amounts. However, the Borrower/s has failed to repay/clear his outstanding dues thereby compelling the Bank to auction the gold ornaments pledged in favour of the Bank.

The auction of the below mentioned gold ornaments would be held at: - Respective Branches On / after 27.07.2023 Time: 11.00 AM

Apac	Account No	Borrower Name	State	Location	Branch	Gr. wt (Gms)
GLN2500599	GLN2500599	Gowri Shankar N V	Karnataka	BANGALORE	BASAVSWRNR	49.04
GLN2638305	GLN2638305	Gnanashekar	Karnataka	BANGALORE	BASAVSWRNR	43
GLN2524376	GLN2524376	Jayalakshmi	Karnataka	BANGALORE	BASAVSWRNR	36.39
GLN2490623	GLN2490623	S Saifulla	Karnataka	BANGALORE	BGROAD	36.17
GLN2631390	GLN2631390	Syeda Rakheeba Banu	Karnataka	BANGALORE	BGROAD	59.9
GLN2608870	GLN2608870	Mahadesha C	Karnataka	BANGALORE	BOMMANAHA	88.4
GLN2620121	GLN2620121	Sampangi Rama Reddy .	Karnataka	BANGALORE	BOMMANAHA	160.04
GLN1836899	GLN1836899	B Lokesh	Karnataka	BANGALORE	BSANKARI	112.05
GLN1739752	GLN1739752	Shaik Azhar Pasha	Karnataka	BANGALORE	FRAZERTOW	27.26
GLN1803850	GLN1803850	Kabeer Ahmed	Karnataka	BANGALORE	FRAZERTOW	132.97
GLN1747898	GLN1747898	Tara Sultana	Karnataka	BANGALORE	FRAZERTOW	32.35
GLN2533716	GLN2533716	Mohammed Siddiq	Karnataka	BANGALORE	FRAZERTOW	21.46
GLN2115487	GLN2115487	B Shilpa	Karnataka	BANGALORE	INFANTRYR	46.36
GLN2494351	GLN2494351	B S Mahalakshmi	Karnataka	BANGALORE	JAKASANDRA	61.35
GLN1824523	GLN1824523	Rambabu Madala	Karnataka	BANGALORE	JPNGR2	13.16
GLN2415124	GLN2415124	Asha .	Karnataka	BANGALORE	JPNGR2	28.94
GLN2612173	GLN2612173	Shivakumar M	Karnataka	BANGALORE	JPNGR2	39.1
GLN2490749	GLN2490749	Mani Saravana G	Karnataka	BANGALORE	JPNGR2	34.3
GLN2596140	GLN2596140	Vishnu Simmha Agnisagar	Karnataka	BANGALORE	KAMNHALI	18.28
GLN2629916	GLN2629916	Vishnu Simmha Agnisagar	Karnataka	BANGALORE	KAMNHALI	22
GLN2389716	GLN2389716	Mayur Mohan Joshi	Karnataka	BANGALORE	KHROAD	12.3
GLN2432001	GLN2432001	Mayur Mohan Joshi	Karnataka	BANGALORE	KHROAD	24.8
GLN2254033	GLN2254033	Desikan M	Karnataka	BANGALORE	MALESWARA	9.82
GLN2480114	GLN2480114	Smitha D P	Karnataka	BANGALORE	MALESWARA	70.56
GLN2631501	GLN2631501	Umesh H T	Karnataka	BANGALORE	RAJAJINAGA	189.35
GLN2488463	GLN2488463	Sankaraananthi M	Karnataka	BANGALORE	RAJAJINAGA	33.15
GLN2610727	GLN2610727	Pratheek N V	Karnataka	BANGALORE	RAJAJINAGA	30.17
GLN2558551	GLN2558551	Manjappa R	Karnataka	BANGALORE	RRCOMPLEX	31.1
GLN2540658	GLN2540658	Shivaraju V	Karnataka	BANGALORE	SANJNAGR	158.7
GLN2616346	GLN2616346	Mohan Kumar Y B	Karnataka	BANGALORE	SARJAPURA	51.9
GLN2249575	GLN2249575	Chandra Shekar C N	Karnataka	BANGALORE	VIJAYANAGA	23.4
GLN2247887	GLN2247887	Nagaraja S H	Karnataka	BANGALORE	VIJAYANAGA	25.17
GLN2639846	GLN2639846	Kiran Kempegowda	Karnataka	BANGALORE	VIJAYANAGA	107.43
GLN2577242	GLN2577242	Kiran Kempegowda	Karnataka	BANGALORE	VIJAYANAGA	172.19

Bidders are requested to Submit a copy of their Photo – identity, signature and address proof along with their original for verification together with two recent photographs on the day of auction. The Bank reserves the right to change the venue/date/time of auction or cancel the auction without any notice to bidders.

The cost of the auction process will be debited to the customer account. Bank reserves the right to recover the balance amount from the customer if the bid amount is insufficient to meet the payoff amount of the account.

For any further details regarding the terms and conditions of the auction, you are required to contact the below mentioned person/s.

Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.
Ph - 8197072323

KARNATAKA STATE FINANCIAL CORPORATION

Established under the State Financial Corporations Act 1951
Branch Office, 9/1, 2nd Floor, Sahukar Channaiah Road, Opp. Sri Krishnadhama, Saraswathipuram Mysore - 570 009 Tele.No. 2344930/2344524, E-mail: mys@ksfc.co

SALE OF ASSETS THROUGH e-auction

The assets of the following units taken over u/s 29 of SFC's Act. 1951 are available for sale on **"AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION"** through e-auction.

1] M/s. Nadig Promoters & Developers Pvt. Ltd Mysore, Directors 1) Sri. Raghav S Nadig and 2) Smt. Jayalakshmi Sathyanarayana Nadig. The Following 17 Residential sites formed at **Phase-3 Doddakadanahally, Bilikere Hobli, Hunsur Taluk Mysore Dist** is for sale on "as is where is condition" basis.

(KSFC/2023-24/AUCTION2)

Sl. No	Site No.	Dimension in Ft. E-W	Dimension in Ft. N-S	Total Sft.	Reserve Price in Rs.	EMD in Rs.	e-auction ID
1	2	50	60	3000	1395000/-	139500/-	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
2	3	50	60	3000	1395000/-	139500/	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
3	4	50	60	3000	1395000/-	139500/	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
4	5	50	60	3000	1395000/-	139500/	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
5	6	50	60	3000	1395000/-	139500/	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
6	7	50	60	3000	1395000/-	139500/	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
7	8	50	60	3000	1395000/-	139500/	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
8	9	50	60	3000	1395000/-	139500/	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
9	28	80	50	4000	1860000/-	186000/-	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
10	51	60	50	3000	1395000/-	139500/	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
11	52	60	50	3000	1395000/-	139500/	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
12	53	60	50	3000	1395000/-	139500/	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
13	58	60	50	3000	1395000/-	139500/	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
14	69	70	50	3500	1627500/	162750/	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
15	10	(50+40)/2	60	2700	1255500/-	125550/-	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
16	40	(60+61)/2	(107+83)/2	5747.50	2672588/-	267258/-	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)
17	61	(70+71)/2	(82.3+77.6)/2	5636.48	2620498/-	262050/-	(KSFC/2023 -24/AUCTION2)

Date of Inspection:20.07.2023 between 11.00 AM & 1.00 PM

2] M/s. SSA Enterprises, Plot No.410-413/28-A, KIADB Industrial Area, Hebbal, Mysore. Partners: Sri. H.R. Madhu, Smt. Nalini K R and Smt. Kokila K N (KSFC/2023-24/AUCTION4) a. Land: Land measuring 13.44 guntas situated at Plot No.410-413/28-A, Hebbal Industrial Area, Hebbal, Mysore, b. Building: - 1. Industrial Building with sheet roof measuring 29'x30'. 2. Godown measuring 18'x14', 3. Open type AC sheet roofed shed measuring 13'x23', 4. Compound Wall with gate.

Reserved Price for Land & Building Rs. 1,45,00,000/-, EMD amount : Rs.14,50,000/-

c. Plant and Machinery (1) Empty plastic Barrels-1 lot, broken furniture like desks, cot table etc., part machinery attachments-1 lot in dismantled and scrap condition.

Reserved Price for Plant & Machinery: Rs.15,000/- , EMD amount : Rs.1,500/-

Date of Inspection: 21.07.2023 between 11.00 AM & 1.00 PM

(3) M/s Bhaghya Inductions: At Plot No.269-M, Hebbal Industrial Area, Mysore behind RPG, Mysore - 570018. (KSFC/2023-24/AUCTION5) (a) Land and Building: 1047sqmtrs of industrial land and building thereon with **231.40sqmtrs** of sheet roofed industrial area building and **157.94 sqmtrs** of RCC roofed industrial building and **44.70 sqmtrs** of Administrative Block building.

Reserve Price Rs.1,07,57000/- EMD: Rs.10,75,700 /

(b) Plant and Machinery: Plant and Machineries suitable for Induction Hardening and Precision Machining (break up details of the Plant and Machineries can be viewed in the e-portal).

Reserve Price Rs .13,77,000/- EMD: Rs.1,37,700/-

Date of Inspection: 21.07.2023 between 2.30 PM & 4.30 PM

(4)M/s CCG Groups: Old Sy.No.18/1,Re Sy.No.18/5,Bannikuppe grama, Kasaba Hobli, Hunsur Tq, Mysore Dist. (KSFC/2023-24/AUCTION6) (a) Land: 1acre of commercially converted land with registered lease hold rights upto **18.03.2033** (copy of the registered lease deed can be viewed in the e- Portal). **Building:** Building suitable for hotel project with car parking and other facilities (break up details of the building can be viewed in the e -portal).

Reserve Price Rs.1,21,40,000/- EMD: Rs.12,14,000/-

b) Furniture and Equipments: Furniture and Equipments required for hotel project (break up details of the Furniture and Equipments can be viewed in the e -portal).

Reserve Price Rs.62,17,000/- E M D: Rs. 6,21,700/-

c) 30 KVA DG set with Mahindra Engine & Crompton alternator.

Reserve Price Rs.2,96,000/- EMD: Rs.29,600/-

Date of Inspection: 20.07.2023 between 2.30 AM & 4.30 PM

E-auction for all the above units will commence on 27.07.2023 at 11.00 A.M. and closes on 19.08.2023 at 11.30 AM Last date for depositing EMD is on or before 18.08.2023 within 5:00 PM.

Detailed terms and conditions of sale through e-auction are available in website **eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** For more details to participate in e-auction please contact e-procurement help desk No.080-23010900/23010901 or take help of e-procurement cell, at Room No. 141, Gate No. 2, MS building , Ambedikar Veedhi, Bangalore -560001 or Contact the Authorized Officer & Assistant Gen. Manager, KSFC, BO, Mysore on Mobile No. 9448348195.

Date: 17.07.2023 **Sd/-**
Place: Mysore **ASSISTANT GEN. MANAGER**

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IN THE COURT OF THE LXXXVI ADDL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-87)
Com. O.S. No.1326/2022

BETWEEN: M/s. Sugam Parivahan Private Limited, Branch Office at D.No. B-176, Ground Floor & 1st Floor, Devaraj URS Truck Terminal, 2nd Stage, Industrial Sub-Urb, Yeshwanthpur, Bengaluru-560022 Represented by its Area Sales Manager, Mr. Awanish Singh ... **Plaintiff**

AND: M/s. Spectra Pipes Private Limited ... Defendant

SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANT UNDER ORDER 5 RULE 20 OF CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE, 1908

DEFENDANT: M/s. Spectra Pipes Private Limited, No.21, Kumar Krupa Road, Madhav Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, Bengaluru- 560001

Also at: C/o: MS Retail Private Limited, No.G1, Ground Floor, KCD Complex, 19/1, CSI Compound, Mission Road, Near Bishop Cotton Law College, Bengaluru-560027. Represented by its Director, Mr. Shravan Anil Mehra

WHEREAS, the above named plaintiff instituted a suit against you for recovery of money of Rs.3,39,000/- with interest at 18% p.a from the date of the suit till realization. You are hereby summoned to appear before this court on **02-08-2023** at 11.a.m in person or through advocate/ pleader to answer the questions to the same, failing which the suit will be heard and determined as ex-parte.

Given under my hand & seal of the court, this 11-07-2023.

By order of the Court, Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru.

Advocate for Plaintiff:
Prashanth B.K. & Associates,
CCI-Legal, No.116, Railway Parallel Road, 8th Cross, Kumar Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020.

IN THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, BENGALURU
No. 01, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bangalore-560001

O.A.No. 760/2021

BETWEEN:
Bank of Baroda
Banashankari Branch ...APPLICANT
AND
Mr. Udaya Shankar D. and Ors. ...DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993, TO DEFENDANTS THROUGH PAPER PUBLICATION.

To,

3. Mr. Naresh Chand S/o Late. Murallal, R/at 5-191, Greater Kailash Part-1, New Delhi-110048

4. Mr. Abdul Jameel S/o Late Abdul Jaleel, R/at. No. 219, 3rd Cross, First Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560034.

6. M/s. Pruthvi Builders and Developers, Represented by its Managing Partner Mr. P.Shankar, Having its Office at No. 29/2, Second Floor, Senaipillai Complex, Hulimavu Gate, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore-560070.

7. Mr. Photarmal Dinesh Kumar Jain, S/o Shivaray, R/at. Flat No. 503, 5th Floor, Chikoti Garden, Begumpet, Secunderabad Hyderabad, Telangana-500016.

Whereas the applicant Bank has instituted an application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 against you for the recovery of sum of **Rs.41,30,306/-** (Rupees Forty One Lakhs Thirty Thousand Three Hundred Six Only) as on **31.03.2021** with current and future interest, cost and other reliefs. You hereby required to show-cause within 30 days from the date of publication of the Summons on or before **04.09.2023 at 10.30 A.M.** in the forenoon in person or by a Pleader / Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that in default of appearance, on the day mentioned hereinabove, the proceedings will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Hon'ble Tribunal on this **8th day of May 2023.**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal-II
Bangalore

IN THE COURT OF THE XXXI ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, AT BANGALORE
O.S. No. 711 of 2023 (CCH 14)

1. Sornam Arumugam Shanmugam @ A.R. Sornam, Aged about 33 years, Daughter of Arumugam P.L., Permanently residing at: #100/50, South Lakshmipuram, Kannudayanpatti, Tiruchirapalli – 621306, **Currently residing at:** D/702, Vaishnavi Nakshatra, 9/36, Tumkur Road, Bengaluru – 560 022.& Anr

Vs.

STSK PropTech Private Limited,

NOTICE/SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANT

To : STSK PropTech Private Limited, A company registered under the Companies Act, 2013, Having its registered office at: No. 196/6/2, Lava Kusha Edifice, Lava Kusha Nagar, Beratena Agrahara, Hosur Road, Electronic City, Bengaluru – 560 100 **Also, at:** #195/6/2, 3rd Floor, Ward No. 192, Bhartena Agrahara, Above M.G. Showroom, Hosur Main Road, Electronic City, Bengaluru – 560 100 **...Defendant**

Whereas the above-named Plaintiffs, Sornam Arumugam Sharmugam @ A.R. Sornam, and Mr. Suba Shanmugam S.S., have instituted a suit against you seeking a direction to you to vacate and hand over vacant possession of the residential flat bearing Apartment No. 13065, on the Sixth Floor of Tower – 3 in Building No. 1 in "Prestige Jindal City", Tumkur Main Road, 7th Cross Road, Manjunatha Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 073. Whereas the Plaintiffs have also filed an application being IA No. 1 of 2023 seeking a direction to you to pay the Plaintiffs INR 23,000/- (Rupees Twenty-Three Thousand) per month till the disposal of the suit.

You are hereby summoned to appear before this Court **on 28 July 2023 at 11am** in person or through an advocate/pleader to answer the questions to the same failing which the IA No. 1/2023 and the suit will be heard and determined as ex-parte.

SCHEDULE (Immovable Property)

All that part and parcel of the Residential Apartment bearing No. 13065, situated on the Sixth Floor, Tower – 3 in Building No. 1, in the Project 'Prestige Jindal City' measuring 638 sq. ft. of carpet area and 324 sq. ft. of proportionate share in Common Areas such as lobbies, lifts, staircases and all other areas of common use and totally measuring 962 sq. ft. of Super-Built-up Area, with one covered car parking space in the Basement Level and the Apartment is presently situated at Tumkur Main Road, 7th Cross Road, Manjunatha Nagar, Bagalakunte, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560073 and bounded by:

East: Open towards Open Space in Tower-3, Building No. 1 of 'Prestige Jindal City';
West: Corridor in 6th Floor in Tower-3, Building No. 1 of 'Prestige Jindal City';
North: Open towards Open Space in Tower-3, Building No. 1 of 'Prestige Jindal City';
South: Apartment No. 13066 Open towards Open Space in Tower-3, Building No. 1 of 'Prestige Jindal City';

RCC framed structure and walls are built of cement blocks and cement plastering with vitrified flooring and it has electricity, water and sanitary connections. The windows are of UPVC sliding panels.

Given under my hand & seal of the court, this **23rd day of June 2023**

By Order Of The Court, Asst. Registrar City Civil Court Bangalore

M/s/ Keystone Partners, Advocates & Solicitors, 2nd Floor, 35/2, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru – 560 052. rishab.desai@keystone.law, +91 96111 45706

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited

(Formally known as Capital First Limited)
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 7th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.
Authorized Officer – MS Preeti Toshniwal | Contact No. - 9694702013

IDFC FIRST Bank

APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **IDFC First Bank Limited Formally known as Capital First Limited,** will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **5th August 2023,** for recovery of **Rs. 27,82,499.54/- (Rupees Twenty-seven Lakhs Eighty-Two Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Nine and Fifty-Four Paise Only)** as on **28-01-19** due to the **IDFC First Bank Limited** from **1. L Vijaykumar 2. N. Lakkanna and 3. 7 Blu Framaes.** The Reserve Price will **INR 49,26,645/- (Forty-Nine Lakhs Twenty-Six Thousand Six Hundred Fourth Five Only)** and the Earnest Money Deposit will be 10% of the Reserved Price **INR 4,92,664/- (Four Lakhs Ninety-Two Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty-Four only).**

DESCRIPTION OF MORTGAGE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property consisting of No.16, 1st Cross, 10th C Main, Near Lalbagh Nursing Home, Jayanagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560011
Bounded: North : Conservancy Lane, South : Road, East : Cross Lane, West Corporation Bank

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in **IDFC First Bank Limited** website i.e. **www.idfcfirstbank.com**

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
Date : 17/07/2023 **(Formally known as Capital First Limited)**

APTUS Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd

8B, Doshi Towers, 205, Poonamalle High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai-600 010.Telephone: 044-4565 0003

Possession Notice Appendix IV (rule8 (1) of the SARFAESI Act

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued **demand notice dated 10--06--2022 calling upon the borrowers 1.Jayalakshmi, 2.Muniraju & 3.Jagadish.B.P., S/o.Puttaswamaiah to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being for Home Construction Loan in Loan No: ARMNGR0061392 of Rs. 11,12,725/- (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Twelve Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Five Only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **"Symbolic Possession"** of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rule **on this 13th day of July, 2023.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd for an amount of **Rs. 11,11,162/- (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Eleven Thousand One Hundred and Sixty Two Only) as on 24.06.2023** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets

Description of the Immovable property:-

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing Site No.34, Khatha No.105/34, Unique ID No.150200300801600113, situated at Gangenahalli Village, Tavaraekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently comes under limits of Cholanayakanahalli Grama Panchayath, measuring East to West 9.14 mtrs or 30 feet and North to South 12.19 mtrs or 40 ft and in all measuring 111.48 Sq.mtrs or 1200 Sq.ft bounded on: and **bounded by:- Boundaries: North By:** Property no: 33 **South By:** Property no: 35 **East By:** Property no: 40 **West By:** Road.

Date: 13.07.2023 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Gangenahalli **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd**

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited

(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai-600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.

IDFC FIRST Bank

APPENDIX IV [Rule 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **15.02.2023** calling upon the borrower, co-borrowers and guarantors **1. Moula G, 2. Mumtaj Ghousepeer S,** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 52,45,795.63/- (Rupees Fifty Two Lac Forty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Five and Sixty Three Paise Only)** as on **13.02.2023,** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Demand notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub – section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **14th day of July 2023.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of THE **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)** for an amount of **Rs. 52,45,795.63/- (Rupees Fifty Two Lac Forty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Five and Sixty Three Paise Only)** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub – Section (8) Of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable properties

All That Piece And Parcel Of Property Bearing Extract Of CMC Katha No. 3471/3031/2155/11/31, Old Site No. 31, Admeasuring 1186 Sq. Feet. Situated At Rudramma Layout, Vijayapura, Devanahalli Taluk Banglore, Karnataka, Comprising Of A Building Bounded On: **East : Private Property, West : Private Property, North : Road And Remaining Portion Of Site No. 31, South : 5 Feet Conservancy Lane**

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Date : 14th July 2023 **IDFC First Bank Limited**
Place : Banglore. **(erstwhile Capital First Limited and**
Loan Account No : 25179648 & 33867344. **amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)**

APTUS Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd

8B, Doshi Towers, 205, Poonamalle High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai-600 010.Telephone: 044-4565 0003

Possession Notice Appendix IV (rule8 (1) of the SARFAESI Act

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued **demand notice dated 30--04--2021 calling upon the borrowers 1.Bhagyamma & 2.Redrachar to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being for Home Construction Loan in Loan No: ABAN-GL0003037 of Rs. 15,18,404 /- (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Eighteen Thousand Four Hundred Four Only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **"Symbolic Possession"** of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rule **on this 13th day of July, 2023.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd for an amount of Rs. 16,71,054/- (Rupees Sixteen Lakhs Seventy One Thousand and Fifty Four Only) as on 24.06.2023** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets

Description of the Immovable property:-

All that piece and parcel of property bearing Site No.1C, Assessment No.4, situated at Dasarahalli Village, Yeshawanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, earlier under the limits of Dasarahalli CMC, presently comes under the limits of BBMP Bangalore, measuring on the East 54½ ft, on the West 27 Feet on the North 29½ ft and on the South 38 Feet in all measuring 1375 Sq.ft., and bounded by:- **Boundaries: North By:** V Krishnachar Property **South By:** Road **East By:** Ramashetty and Ratnamma Property **West By:** Road and than V Krishnachar Property.

Date: 13.07.2023 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Dasarahalli **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd**

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

CUB TRUST AND EXCELLENCE SINCE 1904

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 23,76,218/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Seventy Six Thousand Two Hundred and Eighteen only)** as on **13-07-2023** together with further interest to be charged from **14-07-2023** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) M/s. ASK Tahura Spices, Shop No.3, JM Trust Building, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara - 562117. No.2) Mr. Muqeeb ur Rahman, S/o. Abdul Razak, No.19, Muslim Block, Old Police Station Road, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara - 562117. No.3) Mrs. Sameera Kousar, W/o. Muqeeb ur Rahman, No.19, Muslim Block, Old Police Station Road, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara - 562117. No.4) Mr. Shujath Hussain, S/o. Abdul Razak, No.19, Muslim Block, Old Police Station Road, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara - 562117.**

Note : 1) That our **198 - Bengaluru - Ramanagara Branch** has also extended Financial Assistance (CUB OSL SPECIAL-BR : 501812080062590) dated **18-09-2017** requested by **No.1** of you represented by **No.2** of you as Proprietor for which **Nos.2 and 3** of you stood as Co-obligants and **No.4** of you stood as Guarantor for the facility for a total amount of **Rs.75,000/-** at a ROI of **15.50%**. The same has been also classified as **NPA** on **30-11-2020** and the outstanding balance as on **13-07-2023** is **Rs.1,29,065/-** plus further interest and penal interest of 2.00% with monthly rests to be charged from **14-07-2023** till the date of realization.

2) That our **198 - Bengaluru - Ramanagara Branch** has also extended financial assistance (FITL - ADHOC : 501912090018541) dated **16-10-2020** requested by **No.1** of you represented by No.**2** of you as Proprietor for the facility for a total amount of **Rs.1,24,000/-** at a ROI of **14.5%.** The same has been also classified as **NPA** on **30-11-2020** and the outstanding balance as on **13-07-2023** is **Rs.1,89,905/-** plus further interest and penal interest of **2.00%** with monthly rests to be charged from **14-07-2023** till the date of realization.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
(Property Owned by Mr. Shujath Hussain, S/o. Abdul Razak)

All that piece and Parcel of Property bearing Old Municipal Khatha No.5416/3626, Present Khatha No.5416/A/3626/A. Measuring : East to West 15 Feet, North to South 30 Feet, situated at Azeez Nagar, Ward No.15, Kanakapura Town, Ramanagara District. Bounded on the : East by : House of Rizwana, West by : Remaining Property of Sharfi, in Same number, North by : Municipal Road, South by : Halla.

Reserve Price : Rs.7,50,000/-
(Rupees Seven Lakh Fifty Thousand only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
03-08-2023	**City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Ramanagara Branch,** B.M.Road, 316, I Stage, Near Bus Stand, Bangalore-Mysore Main Road, Ramanagara, Bengaluru Rural - 571511. Telephone No.080-27276688, Cell No.9379511195.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself/herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Ramanagara Branch, B.M.Road, 316, I Stage, Near Bus Stand, Bangalore - Mysore Main Road, Ramanagara, Bengaluru Rural - 571511. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No. 080-27276688, Cell No. 9379511195. (5)** The property/ ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the Sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 15-07-2023 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd

Corporate Office : 802, Natraj By Rustomjee, Western Express Highway, Sir M.V. Road, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400069, Maharashtra.
KR Puram (Old Branch Whitefield) Branch : Office No. 1218, 2nd Floor, Pooja Complex, Old Madras Road, K R Puram, Bangalore-560036,(KA).
Malleshwaram Branch : No.16/12 , Nagarathna Nilaya, First Floor, Opp Dr.Rajkumar Samadhi, 1st A Cross, 2nd Main, Nandini Layout. 2nd Block, Outer Ring Road, Bangalore - 560096 (KA).

APPENDIX IV POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub –section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of AHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

Sl No.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Date of Possession
1	(COMBINE LOAN CODE_NO. 21400001199 & 21400000489 KR Puram Branch) Suresh K (Borrower) Nagesh Kondeti (Co Borrower)	Muncipal Katha No.121/146/1C,Site No.03,Measuring East To West 19 ½ Feet and North To south 40 feet (out of East To west 39 Feet and North to South 40 feet) in all measuring 780 Square feet,Situated at Near East of Kannurahalli Road,M V Extension Hoskote , Bengaluru - 562114, KARNATAKA. : Bounded on : **East by** : Remaining Portion of site No.3(Private Property) already conveyed, **West by** : 25 feet Road, , **North by** : Private Property, and **South by** :25 feet Road.	11-04-2023 ₹ 10,56,873.00 (Rupees Ten Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Three Only.) & ₹ 10,51,995.00 (Rupees Ten Lakhs Fifty One Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Five Only.)	12-07-2023
2	(COMBINE LOAN CODE_NO. 22700000674 KR Puram (Old Branch Whitefield) Branch) Dhanunjaya A (Borrower) Jayalakshmi A (Co Borrower)	**Schedule A Property:** All that piece and parcel of the present property bearing katha No.615/79/2 & 1420/80/84,Converted land bearing old Sy No.79, New Sy No.79/2,measuring 1 acre,and Sy No.80/4,Measuring about 0-23 Guntas,Situated at Hirandahalli village, Bidarahalli Hobli,earlier Bangalore South Taluk, Presently Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore. Bounded on : **East by** : Sy No.78, **West by** : Sy No.79/1 & 80/3, **North by** : Road, and **South by** : Sy No.79/1. **Schedule B Property** : All that piece and parcel of the Flat No.009, In the ground floor, of the apartment building Known as "PINNACLE "having Super built up area of 1027 Sq feet, Consisting Two Bed Rooms, along with one car parking space, Including Proportionate share in common areas such as passages, Lobbies etc. Together with 339 Sq ft of Undivided share among the land comprised in Schedule A Property.	11-04-2023 ₹ 22,78,410.00 (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Seventy Eight Thousand Four Hundred Ten Only.)	12-07-2023
3	(COMBINE LOAN CODE_NO. 18900003382 Malleshwaram Branch) Pradeep H V (Borrower) Shwetha R Prasad (Co Borrower)	All that part and parcel of Property bearing:-No.218,PID No.100-625-68,Bhoopsandra Main Rd, Nagashetty Village,Kasabha Hobli,BBMP ward No.100,Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru, KARNATAKA 560094 and Measuring East To West 27 feet,North To south 25 feet, Totally measuring 675 sft . Bounded on : **East by** : Sri Muniyappa Property, **West by** : Passage, **North by** : Sri Dinesh Jai Property, and **South by** : Boopasandra Main Road.	16-04-2023 ₹ 23,54,329.00 (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Fifty Four Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Nine Only.)	14-07-2023

Place : KR Puram & Malleshwaram **Authorised Officer**
Date : 17.07.2023 **Aadhar Housing Finance Limited**

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • JULY 17, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

INDIA INDISPENSABLE PARTNER FOR FRIENDSHORING, SAYS JANET YELLEN

The US Treasury Secretary said friendshoring is an important priority for Washington and it looks to India as a significant partner in this regard

U.S. move to tackle china threat

Friendshoring is a strategy where a country sources raw materials, components, and manufactured goods from countries that share its values. The aim is to minimise supply disruptions due to trade disputes and geopolitical tensions. US firms moving some of their production out of China to friendly countries like India is an example

Yellen was speaking to media in Gandhinagar where she is set to attend the G20 finance ministers' meeting. She had recently wrapped up her Beijing visit aimed at reducing US-China tensions

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■ DHARMAPURI ■ KOTTAYAM ■ KANNUR
■ VILLUPURAM ■ KOLLAM
■ TADEPALLIGUDEM ■ NAGAPATTINAM
■ THRISSUR ■ KALABURAGI

AAP, Cong bury hatchet as Oppn brain-storming begins today

At least 24 like-minded parties are expected to attend the two-day meeting in Bengaluru

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

THE second edition of the meeting of Opposition parties is set to begin in Bengaluru on Monday on a stronger footing with the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) resolving their differences over the Centre's ordinance on control of services in Delhi.

According to sources, leaders of at least 24 'like-minded' parties will attend the meeting, called by the Congress, to chalk out strategies to forge an anti-BJP front in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. The leaders will attend a dinner hosted by Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday evening, followed by formal meetings the next day.

The AAP decided to participate in the meeting on Sunday, a day after the Congress said it would oppose the Centre's ordinance. "Not only the Delhi ordinance, we will not support any attempt to sabotage federalism in the country," said AICC general secretary (organisation) K C Venugopal.

Earlier, the AAP had said that it would not attend the joint Opposition meeting if the Congress doesn't publicly denounce the ordinance.

A galaxy of prominent Opposition leaders is expected to attend the Bengaluru meet, including Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin, West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee, Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren, Bihar CM Nitish Kumar, and Rashtriya Janata Dal chief Lalu Prasad, among others.

This is the second joint meeting of Opposition parties to chalk out a strategy to fight the BJP in 2024. The first meeting was convened by Bihar CM Nitish Kumar in Patna on June 23.

The BRS, YSRCP, and BJD are unlikely to attend the meeting. They had skipped the first meeting, too. While the session is taking place amid a vertical split in the NCP, party leaders said it will not dampen unity efforts.

CPI(M) Rajya Sabha M P Elamaram Kareem told *TNIE* that internal contradictions among regional parties won't hamper attempts to cobble a common front against the BJP at the national level, adding that the meeting will discuss pragmatic ways to recalibrate strategies in state-level alliances.

"Our common minimum goal is to defeat the BJP in the next election," said RSP MP N K Premachandran. P6

BJP sees regional parties as a big threat, says Pawar

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

THE BJP considers regional parties and their influential leaders as a major threat to their winning prospects in 2024, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) founder Sharad Pawar said. That's the reason the saffron party wants to break regional parties such as the NCP, the veteran leader told *TNIE* in an exclusive interview.

"The BJP is using all their might and resources to divide the regional parties... Due to these parties, the BJP is struggling to expand its footprint beyond the North belt," he added.

He, however, cautioned that forging Opposition unity against the BJP is going to be a big challenge. "Opposition parties have to understand that it is not an easy task. They need to be united if they want to defeat the BJP in 2024 Lok Sabha elections," he said.

Citing the differences among the opposition parties due to the dynamics of regional politics, Pawar said these 'practical difficulties' can't be ignored. "For example, in West Bengal, Mamata Banerjee's TMC and the Congress are rivals and, hence, can't easily come together against the BJP. The same issue is in Kerala and other states. If these practical and genuine issues among Opposition parties are not sorted out, then we need to keep open the window of unity post elections... We have to prepare for different types of political scenarios," he said.

Pawar advised parties not to stretch their differences or criticise each other in such a way that it will cut down communication lines and strain relationships.

Meanwhile, Maharashtra deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar, who led the rebellion against Pawar senior, and other leaders from his camp including Praful Patel met the veteran leader on Sunday. They requested the senior leader's support to keep the NCP united. "We asked him (Sharad Pawar) to think about our request over the next some days and guide us. He listened to us quietly but said nothing," said Praful Patel.

Oppn forming 'Protection of Dynasties Alliance': BJP

BJP president J P Nadda on Sunday alleged that the opposition parties are forming an alliance to "protect" their dynastic politics and that the Congress-led UPA stands for "utpidan, pakshpat and atyachar" -- oppression, favouritism and atrocities. The proposed coalition of the opposition parties is not a "Patriotic Democratic Alliance", but a "Protection of Dynasties Alliance", Nadda said at a BJP rally in Jaipur. "All these people have joined the alliance to protect their families, while Modi works to take the country forward," the BJP chief said.

That cuppa to cost more, hotels to up price by 10%

PURAN CHOUDHARY @ Bengaluru

NOT just essentials like fruits, vegetables and spices, but your daily dose of caffeine too is to get costlier in the state. Coffee sellers in Bengaluru said that due to inflation, the rates of coffee have gone up marginally in July and are set to increase further in the coming months. Customers may see a rate increase of anywhere between 10 and 25 per cent, depending on the brand and type of coffee.

Currently, filter coffee is sold at Rs 300 per kg, while instant coffee is priced at Rs 500 in some shops in Bengaluru. There has been a marginal increase from Rs 280 per kg for filter and Rs 450 for instant coffee in May and June.

Hotels and restaurants are planning to increase prices to meet the inflated cost of coffee and possibly milk in the coming weeks. The coffee in darshinis priced between Rs 10 and Rs 15 will see a hike of at least 10 per cent, said sources from hotel associations across the state.

CONTINUED ON : P6

Alcaraz vanquishes Djokovic in Wimbledon classic

Spanish World No. 1 bests Serbian in five-set classic, wins a second Major. A look at some of the talking points from the high-octane clash...

THE OPENING STANZA

Coming into the final, the 36-year-old had only been broken thrice in the first six matches. He showed why when he saved a break point enroute to win the first set 6-1. Alcaraz's error-strewn game had contributed and you have to face the consequences when you play the best

Carlos Alcaraz bt Novak Djokovic 1-6, 7-6(6), 6-1, 3-6, 6-4

Spain's Carlos Alcaraz won his first Major title, second overall, on grass on Sunday | AFP | P13

THE FIGHTBACK

If the first set followed a familiar pattern, what happened afterwards is a testimony to Alcaraz's skill. Staying with Djokovic is one thing but to actually elevate his game beyond the Serb was what made the final his

HEIR APPARENT

Just 20, this is already Alcaraz's second Major. And he showed why he has already been pencilled in as the real deal of men's tennis. He dipped deep into his mental resolve, learned lessons from the French Open defeat before winning it

EXPRESS READ

OBC leader Rajbhar meets Amit Shah, joins NDA

New Delhi: In a boost to the BJP in UP , OBC leader Om Prakash Rajbhar decided to ally with the party and join the ruling National Democratic Alliance following a meeting with Home Minister Amit Shah. Shah on Sunday tweeted a picture of their meeting and welcomed the Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP) leader to the NDA.

Buzz on KCR contesting LS election from Maharashtra

Hyderabad: Bharat Rashtra Samithi president and Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao is likely to contest from one of the Lok Sabha constituencies in Maharashtra. Party sources have confirmed that the Telangana chief minister is considering contesting from Medak from where he had won previously | P7

Trekkers to Dudhsagar Falls made to do sit-ups

A sea of trekkers at Dudhsagar Falls in Uttara Kannada district | EXPRESS

SUBHASH CHANDRA NS & SUNIL PATIL @ Karwar, Belagavi

VISITORS to Dudhsagar Falls at Castle Rock in Uttara Kannada district on Sunday were made to do sit-ups as punishment, courtesy the Railway Police who have banned trekking to the waterfalls without the permission of the Goa government.

The falls are on the Karnataka-Goa border in Bhagvaan Mahaveer sanctuary. The waterfalls belong to Karnataka, but the water that flows falls into Goa territory.

As the waterfalls has turned majestic with heavy rains in the Western Ghats over the last few days, people from Bengaluru, Mangaluru, Belagavi, Uttara Kannada, Hubballi-Dharwad and Bagalkot, and Pune and other districts of Maharashtra have been thronging the scenic spot. The Goa police, Goa Forest Department and the Railways have been strict with trekkers, considering the heavy rainfall and likelihood of mishaps.

CONTINUED ON : P5

We came from Banahatti in Bagalkot to see the waterfalls. We did not expect such treatment from the police

- A visitor

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Dep Date 2023: AUG 21, SEP 11, 25, OCT 9, 23, Nov 6, 20, Dec 4, 18

AMAZING THAILAND - 5/9 DAYS
Pattaya, Coral island, Gems Gallery, Alcazar Show, NangNooch Village, Cultural Show, Elephant Show, Bangkok Temple & City Tour, Safari World, Marine Park, Dolphin & Sea Lion Show, Orangutan Show, Bird Show, Phukhet, Phi Phi Island, Krabi, 4 Islands Tour
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SINGAPORE - MALAYSIA - THAILAND 4/5/7/11/15 DAYS
Grand Dep Dates 2023: AUG 7, 21, SEP 11, 25, OCT 9,23,

EUROPE 9/13 DAYS
Germany, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Austria, Italy, Venice, Rome, Vatican City, Luxembourg Dep. Date : Sep 22, Oct 13, 27, Nov 17,

UNITED KINGDOM & EUROPE 16/21 DAYS
98456 31379
Dep Date 2023: Oct 3, 17, Nov 6

CAMBODIA - VIETNAM 6/7/12 DAYS
CAMBODIA: Phnom Penh, Seim Rep, Thousan River, Tonle Sap, Angkor Wat World, Largest Hindu Temple
VIETNAM: Hanoi, Ninh Binh, Tam coc, Halong Bay, Ho Chi Minh City, Cu Chi Tunnels, Mekong Delta
9611600810
Dep Date 2023: SEP 11, 25, OCT 9, 23, Nov 6, 20, Dec 4, 18

NEPAL-MUKTHINATH - 5/9 DAYS
7022259003
Kathmandu, Bhakthapur, Doleshwar Mahadev, Pokhara, Phewa Lake, Mukthinath Darshan, Manakamana Cable Car.
DEP DATES: 2023: AUG 16, 30, SEP 6, 20, 27, OCT 4, 11, 25, NOV 1, 8, 15, 22

BALI-7 DAYS | BHUTAN - 8 DAYS
Kintamani Volcano, Ubud Palace, Taman Ayun Royal Temple, Bedugul, Tanah Lot, Pura Ulun Danu, Beraton Lake, Benoa Beach, Garuda Wishnu, Denpasar
Dep. Date : 2023: AUG 21, SEP 11, 25
Thimphu City, Phuentsholing, Paro Dzong Punakha, Dzong Taktsang
Dep Date 2023: AUG 16, 30, SEP 6, 20, 27, OCT 4, 11, 25, NOV 1, 8, 15, 22

ALMANAC TODAY
Monday: 17/07/2023 • Year: Shobhakruta • Ayana: Uttharayana • Ritu: Grishma • Masa: Ashada • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Amavasya 10.20 pm • Nakshatra: Punarvasu 4.28 pm • Moon in Kataka Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am • Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER — MIN 21°C | MAX 28°C
FORECAST: Passing showers. Overcast
Sunrise 6.01 am | Sunset 6.50 pm | Moonrise 5.24 am | Moonset 6.45 pm

DIARRHOEA CASES RISE

Bengaluru South water not potable

During monsoon, drains overflow and rainwater seeps into ground, says doctor

NAMRATA SINDWANI @Bengaluru

AMID rising diarrhoea cases during the monsoon, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) water sample analysis report for June shows South Bengaluru having the highest number of water samples 'not suitable for potable purposes' (NSPP).

Of the total 692 samples tested, 59 (9 per cent) were NSPP and 31 of those were from South Bengaluru. BBMP Chief Health Officer Dr AS Balasundar explained that surveillance is increased during the monsoon due to higher risk of diseases due to water contamination. They test samples from RO water plants, hotels and even public taps, to study the presence of contaminants in water. Water found unfit is chlorinated and tested again to ensure it is fit for potable use.

Water Analysis Report for June 2023

SAMPLES FOUND UNSUITABLE FOR POTABLE PURPOSES	
SOUTH DIVISION	31
BTM LAYOUT	8
BASAVANAGUDI	4
CHICKPET	4
JAYANAGAR	6
VIJAYANAGAR	4
PADMANABHANAGAR	5
EAST DIVISION	12
WEST DIVISION	5
RR NAGAR	4
YELAHANKA	4
MAHADEVAPURA	3

BBMP officials explained that water testing is conducted on a monthly basis, with 2-3 per cent samples found NSPP, with the numbers rising to 10 per cent during the monsoon. A rise in patients suffering from water-related ailments is also seen across hospitals, but there is no exact data as many consult private practitioners.

Dr Parimala V Thirumalesh, senior consultant (neonatology and paediatrics), Aster CMI Hospital, said, "We have been seeing 18-20 cases a week lately, with people suffering from diarrhoea. Most of them occurred due to consumption of contaminated water and frequently eating outside."

The cases see an upsurge during monsoons, with flooding being common, and drains overflowing with rainwater which seeps into the ground, Dr Parimala explained. Under such circumstances, groundwater itself becomes contaminated and causes infections like typhoid or diarrhoea. Watery loose stool multiple times is the main symptom of diarrhoea. It can be associated with dehydration, bloating, nausea and stomach pain.

Dr Sheela Murali Chakravarthy, director (internal medicine), Fortis Hospital, too noted an increase in diarrhoea cases. "There has been an increasing number of acute gastroenteritis cases, with 10 cases weekly and 50 per cent of them requiring hospital admission." She also advised citizens to reduce eating outside, especially uncooked street food like paani puri. Tap water should not be used directly for cooking, either consume boiled water or RO water.

RERA orders Ozone Urbana to register seniors' home project

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority (K-RERA) has ordered Bengaluru-based builder Ozone Urbana Infra Developers Private Limited to immediately register its property 'Serene Urbana' with the Authority. This residential home for senior citizens, located at Kannamangala village in Devanahalli taluk, is incomplete and allegedly lacks numerous safety features.

The RERA order dated July 6, passed by chairman H C Kishore Chandra and members Neelamani N Raju and G R Reddy, billed Serene Urbana "an ongoing project" and directed that it be registered under RERA as per Section 3 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, within two weeks of receipt of the order.

The order was issued following a complaint filed with it by Serene Urbana Apartment Owners Welfare Association against the developer (Respondent 1) and four others, Covai Property Centre India Ltd in Coimbatore (Respondent 2), Covai Senior Care Constructions Pvt Ltd (Respondent 3) also in Coimbatore, Serene Senior Living Private Limited in Chennai (Respondent 4) and Columbia Pacific Communities Private Limited (Respondent 5) in Bengaluru.

The order states that the gist of the complaint was that the respondents had planned and conspired to defraud the allottees by collecting a huge amount from them even before executing the agreement of sale.

Advocate G Suriya Narayanan, who represented the Association, told TNIE, "The project has a total of 318 apartments comprising 1 BHK/2BHK houses and the average age of the occupants is 79. Most of the children of these senior citizens are abroad, and they opted for a safe, peaceful life in the residential community. However, they are facing multiple issues."

Elaborating, the advocate said, "Fire safety clearance has not been obtained. The elevator as well as other electrical installations have also not obtained proper safety clearances. The common property on the ground floor, for which all the house owners have paid, has been sold to Columbia Pacific Communities Pvt Ltd. Instead of handing over the one-time maintenance sum of Rs 3.69 crore paid by all owners to the association, the builder has handed it over to the service provider, the Columbia Pacific group.

The primary respondent's contention was that all development works of the project were completed before RERA came into force. However, the order has established that as on July 31, 2017, the project was incomplete.

The builder has presented a case to RERA that the project has been completed. However, the certificate has not been given by the Gram Panchayat, as mandated, but only by an architect and was invalid, the order added.

Karnataka Home Buyers Forum members call on Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya on Sunday | EXPRESS

HOME BUYERS REQUEST MP TO BRING RERA UNDER SAKALA

Karnataka Home Buyers Forum, a representative body of home buyers in the state, on Sunday urged Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya to ensure the effective implementation of the Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Act (K-RERA). Speaking on behalf of the forum, convenor Dhananjaya Padmanabhachar said, "We have submitted a detailed memorandum to the MP. We asked him to ensure that K-RERA be brought under Sakala (Karnataka guarantee of services to citizens) in the interest of home buyers. We want the government to declare a competent authority for apartment owners association. The process for common area transfer needs to be defined by the government. The builder needs to transfer not only houses, but also the common area to the association under Section 17 of RERA, but that is not done." Home buyers from Mantri Serenity requested the government to intervene to goad promoters to comply with section 17 of RERA. The MP assured that measures would be taken, he added.

EXPRESS READ

Traffic advisory for Opposition meeting

BENGALURU: With the two-day Opposition parties' meeting being held at Taj West End on July 17-18, Bengaluru Traffic Police have requested citizens to avoid using Cubbon Road, Raj Bhavan Road, Palace Road, Race Course Road, Seshadri Road, and Ballari Road to avoid any traffic snarls. Parking of vehicles will also be prohibited on Dr BR Ambedkar Road, Raj Bhavan Road, Ballari Road, and Race Course Road.

Students can use old bus pass till July 31

BENGALURU: In the interest of those who have not availed their student bus passes for the year 2023-24, the BMTC has announced that the students can travel on buses till July 31, by producing their old passes or by producing their school/college admission tickets.

GOVERNMENT ORDER ISSUED ON INTERNAL MARKS IN PU COLLEGES

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE state government has issued a government order on the introduction of internal marks in PU colleges.

Following a proposal given by the Department of Pre-University Education (DPUE), the government issued an order on considering 20 of a total 100 marks in a subject as internal marks.

According to a notification by DPUE, the internal marks are being introduced as part of comprehensive evaluation. "It helps understand the students' potential and increases the seriousness of quizzes and mid-term examinations. Internal assessments also reduce test anxiety and stress. Student observations are continuous and allow learning to improve," they said.

In particular, the internal marks are meant to bring about uniformity in all subjects. Initially, science subjects were divided between a 70-mark theory paper and a 30-mark practical paper, while other subjects that do not have practicals would be marked on a 100-mark theory paper. This has now been changed so that non-practical subjects will be marked on an 80-mark theory paper and a 20-mark internal evaluation.

As a part of this, the GO details the breakdown of the marks. Ten marks will be taken from the average of the best of the two unit tests, combined with the mid-term examination. The other half will be given for various projects and assignments marked to the students, specifically five marks for writing projects and assignments, three marks for presentations, and two marks for viva voce.

The department has also highlighted that the assignments and projects, as well as awarding of marks should be done without any bias towards students and the documents related to the assignments must be held for a period of four months.

They have also stated that a list of project titles and assignments subject-wise should be given to the respective districts and these titles alone must be followed in giving assignments.

500 old KSRTC buses get new life in new avatar

ENS @ Bengaluru

WHILE Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation is aiming to purchase new buses and add them to its fleet, it has tasked its bus depots to refurbish old buses. KSRTC MD Anbu Kumar told *TNIE* that nearly 500 buses that have clocked 10 lakh km have been refurbished now, and look brand new. "The cost of a new bus is around Rs 40 lakh, but our staff are refurbishing old buses into a new avatar for just Rs 3 lakh," he said. The bus corporation suffered heavy losses during Covid and is now recovering well. Due to the Covid impact, KSRTC was unable to purchase any new buses, and this idea of refurbishing old buses and bringing them in a brand new avatar struck. "For almost a year, we have refurbished nearly 500 old buses and the numbers are getting added every week," Kumar said.

Explaining the criteria for selecting buses for refurbishment, Kumar said, "We choose buses that are around 10 years old and have clocked 10 lakh km or more. Once a bus is chosen, it is completely dismantled, except for the chassis. If the chassis is worn out, even that will be fixed and right from the seats to the windows, everything will be replaced. The exterior body will also be rebuilt and once painted, the refurbished bus is as good as a brand-new bus."

He added that in a majority of the buses, the engine will be the same and if needed that will also be refurbished. However, once the buses complete 15 years on the road, they are decommissioned. This way the bus corporation is able to save crores of rupees and there is a competition among the bus depots to refurbish old buses, Kumar said.

An old KSRTC bus undergoes refurbishment at a depot | EXPRESS

Flat owner gets FIR filed against ex-assn members for misusing ₹90L

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

AN apartment owner at an upscale residential complex in Kothanur has filed a police complaint against past members of its unregistered association alleging misappropriation of funds of nearly Rs 90 lakh. Arinjoy Ghosh, a finance professional, has named 13 members of the Palm Beach Owners' Association, who were at the helm during 2020-21 and 2021-22, in the complaint. The police have registered an FIR.

Purva Palm Beach has 1,325 apartments. *TNIE* has a copy of the complaint he filed on July 14 at the Kothanur police station. The police initially merely received his complaint on July 6 and dissuaded him from seeking an FIR. He then met DCP North East Laxmi Prasad, who ordered the Kothanur inspector to file the FIR within a week. The case filed under Sec 406 of IPC names past secretary Kritin Mohana and former treasurer Kankan Ghosh as accused 1 and 2 along with 11 others. Documents of 130 pages have been submitted. "The total amount taken by the unregistered body through misappropriation, cheating, fraud and breach of trust works out to Rs 88,63,719," he said.

A view of Purva Palm Beach

He said nearly Rs 8.5 crore is collected annually by the association. "A maintenance sum of Rs 5,000 for 2BHK apartments and Rs 7,000 for 3BHK apartments, and rentals from the clinic, supermarkets and sponsorships are the sources of income," he explained.

"Rs 7,06,835 was transferred from the Association's bank accounts to the personal bank accounts of members of the Board of Managers and their friends," he alleged. The mandatory statutory audit was not filed for 2021-22, which was supposed to be done by July 2022. For 2020-21, an incomplete audit has been done with just Rs 16 lakh shown as revenue, Ghosh charged. "I have filed a disciplinary complaint with The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India against the auditor of financial year 2020-21," he said.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

17TH July : There's a great deal of uncertainty in the air as Venus links first with Saturn, the planet of stability, and then Uranus, the bringer of sudden change. The press will be full of stories of surprising events. As a matter of fact, this alignment has an impact over the next six months.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
It is rare to find a week as free from special astrological pressures as this, which should come as a welcome surprise to many of you. Only in the emotional and social arenas are the next few days pregnant with romantic and passionate possibilities!

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
You may as well make an ambitious start to the week. There is nothing in the stars to say that you must do such-and-such a thing, but there are certain rewards which are yours for the asking just as long as you lay yourself on the line and say what you want.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
There's a fiery influence in your chart for the entire week. This strange but enthusiastic planetary pattern will be stronger at some moments than others but, on the whole, it is due to keep you happily stimulated, energetic and full of hope.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
You're liable to experience a repeat performance of current emotional conditions in about four to five months' time. This alone should be enough to force you to deal properly with current personal questions rather than sweeping them under the carpet.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
For the next day or so you would do well to let partners take first place. You can afford to be patient, for your time will come within about four days. In the meantime, you stand to benefit from others' actions and ideas. That alone is worth the wait!

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
Get off to a determined start and pack as much into the beginning of the week as you can. Your most practical planetary alignment encourages you to relax, for if you are free from unnecessary pressure you will be ready to tackle all those important tasks.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
It's important to start the week in an optimistic mood, determined to express your individual talents. Try a little experimentation and don't let others put you down or force you into some stale rut. Remember what they say - 'variety is the spice of life'.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
'First things first' is your only possible personal motto today. The best way forward is to tackle fundamentals, and that could mean dealing with questions of home and family before considering career and worldly matters. And while you're at it, complete unfinished tasks - the ones you were hoping would go away!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Witty Mercury and graceful Venus could not be a better combination of planets, so your luck is in. All that is required of you is that you are charming, tolerant, sympathetic and always ready to see the other point of view. That shouldn't be too much trouble!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Today's Mars-Neptune aspect could do wonders for your poetic powers of expression, but there's also a danger that your personal fantasy could obscure the facts. There's nothing wrong with this, just as long as you keep your feelings in perspective.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
It's one of those sensitive and emotional days when it's possible to pick out hourly changes in your mood. For example, around mid-afternoon there'll be very strong pressure to deal with a financial dilemma and, then, after dusk a feeling that your burdens are already lifting.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
There seems to be a fair amount of secrecy around today. Whether you will be able to get your own way is doubtful but, if you wish, you may sit things out until tomorrow, giving yourself extra time to consider your future tactics. Hopefully other people will be patient.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

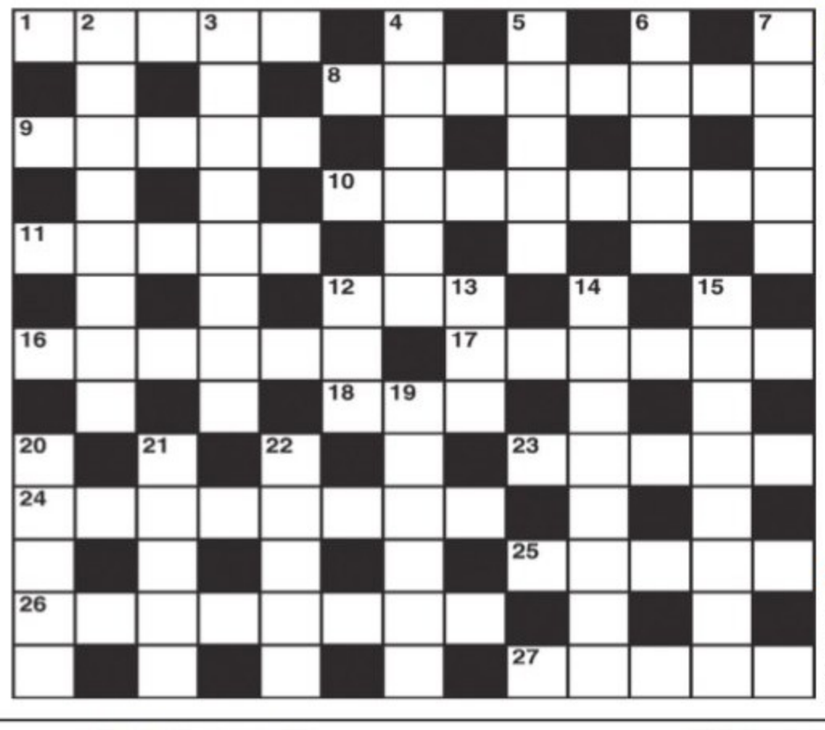
	6							
	7		4	6				9
		1		3				5
	1	6			4			2
			7		5			
5			2			1	3	
2				4		8		
1				7	8		9	
							5	

3	9	2	4	6	7	1	5	8
6	7	4	8	1	5	2	3	9
8	1	5	9	2	3	7	6	4
9	2	6	5	7	4	3	8	1
5	8	3	1	9	2	4	7	6
1	4	7	6	3	8	9	2	5
4	3	9	7	5	6	8	1	2
7	6	1	2	8	9	5	4	3
2	5	8	3	4	1	6	9	7

SUDOKU HARD

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 Stout novelist and comedian (5)
8 A golfer upset about pro's first game (8)
9 Climb and balance (5)
10 Meal done, ordered a drink (8)
11 Game fellow (5)
12 Happy to be back from Italy again (3)
16 Heartless manager replaced by a European (6)
17 Itches to change the rules of conduct (6)
18 A badly run vessel (3)
23 Bird goes after note that is low and throaty (5)
24 There's no end to these pets (4,4)
25 Wet ring perhaps left to dry (5)
26 Impact he made in strong terms (8)
27 Stop being mean (5)

DOWN
2 Didn't refuse; that's normal (8)
3 Barrels found around ancient dumps (8)
4 Unorthodox Easter saint (6)
5 In the article a publicist gives upfront coverage (5)
6 Examination essay? (5)
7 Looked, started to go back then went ahead (5)
12 Animal found in growing numbers (3)
13 A great desire to make money (3)
14 Partly burn a fuel that draws well (8)
15 They jeer at consumers (8)
19 Sell about a litre (6)
20 Worker encountered me coming up first (5)
21 Breaks up bridges (5)
22 Throw away a fight? (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Donkey work, 6 Blow, 10 Curve, 11 Ladylove, 12 Halyards, 13 Nervy, 15 Iridium, 17 Patella, 19 Hundred, 21 Nineveh, 22 Doubt, 4 Raillery, 27 Existence, 28 Comet, 29 Sung, 30 Determined.

Down: 1 Dice, 2 Narration, 3 Enemy, 4 Wolfram, 5 Rides up, 7 Lover, 8 Wishy-washy, 9 Plankton, 14 Nightdress, 16 Irritate, 18 Liverymen, 20 Derange, 21 Naivete, 23 Union, 25 Locum, 26 Stud.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

ZOKOA

RUZEA

GNEEAT

LENWUL

I can't sleep with all these boats speeding by.
Take a nap behind the fallen tree. They can't go fast there.
THE BEST PLACE FOR THE MANATEE TO TAKE A NAP WAS IN THE ___
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here: (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: LIGHT YACHT UPPITY SPOKEN
Answer: The easygoing woman who won the instant lottery game's grand prize was — HAPPY-GO-LUCKY

A 13-year-old boy died after he accidentally fell from a swing at Malavantige village in Belthangady taluk on Sunday. Srisha, son of Balakrishna Gowda, was playing in the swing made with his mother's saree and tied to a tree near his house. Srisha was rushed to a hospital in Belthangady by his mother but he was declared dead. Belthangady police have registered a case

19-YEAR-OLD BOY SET ABLAZE BY GANG OVER LOVE AFFAIR

Hunt on for the eight accused, one related to victim who is battling for life in hospital

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A 19-year-old engineering student was allegedly kidnapped and set ablaze by a gang of eight men, including a relative over a love affair. The incident took place in Kumbalgodu police station limits on Saturday and the youth is battling for life at a hospital.

The victim has been identified as Shashank, aresident of Rajarajeshwari Nagar. The police are on the hunt for the accused persons.

The police said Shashank, who had gone to college on Saturday morning, was kidnapped by the gang in a car and taken to a deserted place off Mysuru Road near Kaniminike. The accused allegedly blindfolded Shashank, tied his hands and gagged him before pouring petrol on him, setting him ablaze and escaping from the scene. He rolled on the ground and managed to put out the fire. He also managed to call his parents and informed them about the incident, sharing his location.

His parents rushed to the spot and took him to the police station.

"The perpetrators are on the run and we are gathering information about their whereabouts. They will be nabbed soon," the police added.

Shashank's father Ranganath said his relative Mahesh alias Manu was behind the incident.

"My son and Manu's niece were in a relationship. We had asked Shashank not to continue it and also advised the girl, who lives in Mysuru, to concentrate on her education. But on Tuesday, she came to Bengaluru to meet my son who brought her home. When we asked why she had come, she told us that her father had threatened to kill her. While she was at our home, her family members came and created a ruckus. They assaulted my son and took her away," he said.

Following the incident, Ranganath was dropping Shashank to the college.

"On Saturday morning too, I dropped him. As the classes got over early, he was waiting at a bus stop to catch a bus to return home when he was kidnapped by Manu and seven others," Ranganath alleged.

> **As the classes got over early, he was waiting at a bus stop to catch a bus to return home when he was kidnapped by Manu and seven others** —Ranganath, Shahshank's father

GENEROUS GESTURE

Actor Ragini Dwivedi distiributes rain jackets and tomatoes to pourakarmikas at a programme organised by Bharatinagar Residents' Forum in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

Head constable, friend caught while accepting ₹50,000 bribe

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A head constable was caught red-handed by the Lokayukta police while accepting a bribe of Rs 50,000 on Sunday. The arrested policeman, Mahesh (43) is attached to the Cyber Crimes, Economic Offences and Narcotics (CEN) police station of Ramanagara. Along with the head constable, the police have arrested his friend who received the bribe on behalf of him.

The Lokayukta police said Mahesh had allegedly demanded a bribe of Rs 2.5 lakh from the complainant Manje Gowda, a resident of Bengaluru, promising that he will help in a three-year-old case registered at Ramanagara CEN police station. Mahesh had already received Rs 75,000 bribe in cash. Unwilling to pay more, Gowda had filed a complaint with the Lokayukta. "Based on the complaint, a trap was laid on Sunday at a party hall in Bengaluru. Ramesh from Uttarahalli received Rs 50,000 from the complainant on behalf of Mahesh, and was caught red-handed before arresting both," the police said.

Man tries to kill wife, pass it off as accident

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Bagalur police have arrested a man and his accomplice for allegedly attempting to murder his wife by ramming a car into her two-wheeler. The case was cracked more than seven months after the incident.

The accused have been identified as Aravind (24), who worked in a factory, and Uday Kumar (40), a driver.

The police said Aravind was married to Chaitanya (22) last year and were living in Hoskote. There were differences between the couple as Chaitanya was forcing her husband that they should live separately from his parents. This led to marital discord and she returned to her parent's house following which Aravind was demanding a divorce but Chaitanya refused as she was pregnant.

"Aravind decided to finish her and roped in Uday to get the job done and paid him Rs. 1.5 lakh. They planned the murder in such a way that it should look like an accident and chose a spot where there were no CCTV cameras. Aravind purchased a used car for the purpose. As Chaitanya went to Bharathanatyam classes each day and returned home via KIADB Layout and as there were no CCTV cameras, they decided that was the place to kill her and not get caught. They executed their plan on January 1 and rammed into the scooter while she was on her way home and sped away. Chaitanya sustained serious injuries in the accident but luckily survived," the police said.

A case was registered in Devanahalli traffic police station, who searched for the vehicle involved in the accident but there was no breakthrough.

"After going through footage recorded by various CCTV cameras on roads leading to the accident spot, the car was identified and traced to a garage. When the car owner was contacted, he said he had sold the car to Aravind a few months ago.

Aravind was picked up for questioning and he spilt the beans that it was not an accident but a murder bid. The case was transferred to Bagalur police and based on Aravind's information, Uday was also arrested," the police added.

'Admit kids of bonded labourers to KREIS schools'

DONNA EVA @Bengaluru

THE children of released bonded labourers will be eligible for entry into schools run by the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society (KREIS). Social Welfare Department Principal Secretary Manivannan P said the minister concerned has given directives to admit the children of bonded labourers to KREIS schools. This comes after the principal secretary had posted a tweet showcasing one of 833 KREIS-run schools in the state, stating 'making leaders from underprivileged communities'.

While the tweet gained recognition for the well-maintained state of the KREIS schools, with many lauding the department for its efforts in improving the schools, some also highlighted that teachers still needed to be recruited and a switch must be made from the schools residing in rented buildings. However, one request made by a netizen asking that the children of released bonded labourers be considered for admission was met with immediate action.

"While KREIS doesn't run schools from Classes 1 to 5, there are social welfare and tribal welfare department-run schools from these classes. The minister has also given directives to strengthen them. He has directed us to give the highest priority to quality education, so we are working in that direction," he said. Currently, KREIS runs 833 schools in the state, including Morarji Desai schools, Kittur Rani Chennamma schools, Dr B R Ambedkar schools, Atal Bihari Vajpayee schools and Indira Gandhi schools. The schools are run exclusively to cater to the education of students coming from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes.

Patrolling up after gang targets gated communities

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

A recent video of a gang of men trying to break into gated communities in Sarjapur is doing the rounds on social media which has led to the police increase patrolling in the locality. While the CCTV camera footage has caused panic among residents, it is learnt that the residents of the gated community have refused to file a formal police complaint. One such incident was reported in the wee hours of July 11 at Metropolis Fair Oaks, a gated community situated in Sarjapur. The footage showed five armed men roaming around inside the society for 2-3 hours.

On June 27, similar incident was reported at another gated community, Palm Ville, located 100m from Metropolis Fair Oaks. In both the incidents, no items were stolen from any house and it was also confirmed that two different gangs were involved. The police visited the societies and even spoke to residents of the area.

Bengaluru Rural SP Mallikarjun S Balladandi said, "We are on the look out for the miscreants and are gathering details of gangs involved in similar incidents. Night patrolling has been increased."

CRIME PATROL

Youngsters misbehave with woman techie, break car windscreen

BENGALURU: A woman software engineer has filed a complaint with the Peenya police alleging that a gang of youth allegedly smashed the windscreen of her car after she questioned their misbehaviour with her. The plice said the incident took place in Brundavana Layout and the woman has alleged that the youth had misbehaved with her asking for her phone number when she was returning home from work recently. "On Friday night, 2-3 miscreants smashed the windscreen of her car that was parked outside. While the investigations are on, it is suspected that the miscreants lived in the same locality and they had fought with the woman over an issue. We are on the lookout for them," the police added. **ENS**

A video grab showing tourists doing sit-ups

Tourists sit on railway track and protest

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

VISITORS have to trek from Castle Rock along the railway line to reach the falls. "Despite the Railways banning trekking, people came in large numbers without permission. They all get down once the train slows down. This being the weekend, the crowd was bigger. More than 50 Railway Police personnel who had been stationed stopped the trekkers midway, punished them by making them do situps and sent them back," one of the visitors said.

The policemen hit the youth, who did not do the sit-ups, mildly with lathis. The video has gone viral on social media. Some tourists also staged a protest by sitting on the railway track to condemn the behaviour of the police.

"We came from Banahatti in Bagalkot to see the waterfalls. We did not expect such treatment from the police," said a visitor who was punished by the police. Dudhsagar is the sixth highest waterfall in the country, falling from a height of 320 metre, even higher than Jog falls, which is 254 metre. It is the second highest waterfall in Karnataka after Kunchackkal waterfalls in Shivamogga that falls from a height of 455 metre.

The Dudhsagar rail stop is not a station where passengers can expect a platform. Visitors have to climb down from bogeys and trek about a kilometre on the tracks to arrive at the falls. The Indian Railways has banned people from boarding and deboarding at the Dudhsagar stop.

BEFORE THE HON'BLE 89th ADDL. CITY CIVIL COURT (COMMERCIAL) CCH-90 AT BANGALORE
Com. OS No. 92/2023

BETWEEN: CANARA Bank represented by Senior Manager Mrs. Alfa Essa Kindo ... **PLAINTIFF**
AND: M/s. Umraa Enterprises and Others ... **DEFENDANTS 1 & 2**

SUMMONS TO BOTH DEFENDANTS

1. M/s. UMRAA ENTERPRISES, Represented by proprietor Mr. Sanualla .A.K No. 2, 3rd main, 1st Block, Ayyappanagar, K R Puram Bangalore-560036.
2. Mr. Sanualla A.K, S/o. Abdul Khalikh # 2, 3rd Main, 1st Block Ayyappanagar, K R Puram Bangalore-- 560036, Karnataka.

NOTICE

Whereas the plaintiff has instituted the above suit against both of you for recovery of a loan amount for the sum of Rs. 10,65,963/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Sixty Five Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty Three only) together with interest from the date of suit till the date of realization of the suit claim amount along with cost of the suit. Both of you are hereby summoned to appear in this court in person or pleader on **11-08-2023** at 11:00 A.M to answer the same, failing which the suit will be disposed off against you, ex-parte.

Given under my hand and the seal of the court, 14-07-2023.

By order of the court, Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.

Advocate for Plaintiff: **INDU .N** No.13, Ground Floor, DN Chandrappa Layout, Hoodi KR Puram Road, Hoodi, Bangalore-560048.

IN THE COURT OF V ADDITIONAL FAMILY JUDGE AT BANGALORE
Crl. Misc. No. 134/2021

BETWEEN:
Sri. Abdhu Shaafi @ A.M.M. Shafi ...**PETITIONER**
AND : Moosa Shafi Naufal and Others ...**RESPONDENTS**

Moosa Shafi Naufal, R/at No.95, 1st Block, 1st Stage, HBR Layout, Bangalore - 560 043.

NOTICE/SUMMONS TO RESPONDENT No.1

WHEREAS, the petitioner above named has preferred the above Suit for maintenance before the learned 5th Addl. Family Judge, Bangalore, against you and you are hereby summoned to appear in this Court in person or by a pleader/advocate **on the 10th day of August of 2023, at 11.00 A.M.** to answer the same, failing which the Suit will be disposed of ex-parte.

Given under my hand with the seal of this Court, on 18.04.2023.

By Order of the Court, Senior Sheristeder, Family Court, Bengaluru.

Advocate for Petitioner: **Mahesh M,** Advocate No. 212, 2nd Floor, "Swiss Complex", No.33, Race Course Road, Tatvamasi Law and Co., Bangalore-560001.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client, **Sri. KASANA RAM CHOUDHARY,** S/o Khangara Ram Choudhary residing at No.17, 13th Cross, 4th Main, S.R. Nagar, Bengaluru-560027 agreed to purchase Property bearing Old No.661/A, Present No.19, situated at 20th Cross, Samapangiramanagar, Bengaluru BBMP Sampangiramanagar Ward Old Ward No.77, Present Ward No.110, PID No. 77-29-19, measuring East to West 31'0" or 9.448819 sq.mts, North to South 34'09" or 10.390653 mts in all 1077.25 sq.ft or 98.178964 sq.mts with construction thereon bounded on East by : Property No. 662/A, West by : Property No. 660/A, North by : Property No. 661 and South by : 20th Cross from **Sri. V. VISHWANATH,** Aged about 60 years, **Sri V. RAJASHEKAR,** Aged about 50 years both sons of Venkatesh, residing at No. 17, 20th Cross, S.R. Nagar, Bengaluru-560027. Any person/persons having any right, title, interest or claim over the above said Property or any part thereof may put forth their claim or submit their objection with documentary proof within **FIFTEEN DAYS** from the date of this publication before under signed within office hours. Failing which my clients will proceed to complete the above said agreement, as there is no objection from any body and my clients will not liable for any future consequences.

M.G. SURESH HOLLA,
M.S. SHISHIRA HOLLA, Advocates
201, GANA-GIRI, Cubbonpet Main Road, Bengaluru-560002, Phone No. 9448775201

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** (Formerly known as Janalakshmi Financial Services Limited)., under the Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **demand notices** to the borrower(s)/ Co-borrower(s) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against the respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notices, along with future interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and/ or realisation.

Sr. No.	Loan No.	Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (in Rs.) as on	Date/ Time & Type of Possession
1	34019430000113	1) Mr. Shiva T, 2) Mrs. Devi S	30-03-2023 Rs.10,20,224/- due as on 27-03-2023	13-07-2023 04:55 P.M. Symbolic Possession
	Mortgaged Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site No.293, Survey No.107, Khatha No.107/293/69 measuring East to West 40 ft and North to South 30 ft, totally measuring 1200 Sq.ft, situated at Kogilu Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, New Yelahanka Taluk, presently within limits of BBMP and **Bounded as follows: East by:** Road, **West by:** Property No.310, **North by:** Property No.294, **South by:** Property No.292.			
2	47519438471334	1) Mr. Prakash M, 2) Mrs. Radhamma P, 3) Mr. Rohith P	14-10-2022 Rs.12,97,333.6 due as on 11-10-2022	14-07-2023 05:12 P.M. Symbolic Possession
	Mortgaged Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of the House property No.46/B, measuring EW: 40 ft and NS: 15 ft in Katha No.149/2/13/2, consists of 1 square AC sheet roofed house situated at Deva Sandra Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to West: 40' (forty feet) and North to South: 15 (fifteen feet) and together **Bounded on the: East by:** Site No.45, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Site No.47in, **South by:** Site No.46/A. Measuring 600 sq.ft. The schedule property consists of 1 Sq. A.C. sheet roofed house, the walls are built with mud and used jungle wood for doors and windows, the house has no civic amenities like electricity, water or sanitary facilities.			

Whereas, the Borrower's/ Co-borrowers'/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby is given to the Borrower's mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken symbolic possession** of the properties/ secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrower's/ Co-borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/ Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured Assets will be subject to the charge of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.**

Place: Bangalore	**Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Date: 17.07.2023	**For. Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
(A scheduled commercial bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071. **Branch Office:** No.2/1, New No.4, Rukmini Nilaya, Ground Floor, Near TVS Showroom, Magadi Main Road, Bangalore-560023

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JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
(A scheduled commercial bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower's, Co-Borrower's, Guarantor's and Mortgagors have availed loans from **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited,** by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequent to default committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as **Non-performing Asset,** whereas **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued **Demand notice** calling upon the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors as mentioned in column No.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within **60 days** from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs. / as on
1	1) Mrs. Gowramma G, 2) Mr. Shivashankar N	Loan Account No. 47469630000122 Loan Amount: Rs.4,92,000/-	**Schedule-II - Details of Secured Assets - Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of property bearing property No.9/1, Assessment No.9/1, Khaneshumari SL No.179, situated at Tharabahalli Village, Jadigenahalli Hobali, Hosakote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, measuring East to West: 30 Feet and North to South: 40 Feet, total measuring 1200 Sq.feet and **Bounded by the: East by:** Gullabbaiah's property, **West by:** Own, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Own.	Date of NPA: 02-07-2023 Demand Notice Date: 13-07-2023	**Rs.3,93,394.70** (Rupees Three Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Four and Seven Paisa Only) **due as on 06-07-2023**
2	1) Mr. Babu DV, 2) Mr. Venkata Narasimhaiah, 3) Mrs. Mangamma L	Loan Account No. 33639630001051 Loan Amount: Rs.4,00,000/-	**Schedule-II - Details of Secured Assets - Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of the immovable Property bearing for Site No.153, Katha No.97, Sl No.120, Measuring 14 X 20, Totally measuring 280 Sq.ft. Situated at Dodderi Village Chikkanahalli Gram Panchayath, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore South District and **Bounded on the: On the East:** Road, **On the West:** Road, **On the North:** Panchayat pal, **On the South:** House Belongs to Rudrappa.	Date of NPA: 02-07-2023 Demand Notice Date: 12-07-2023	**Rs.4,18,156.30** (Rupees Four Lakh Eighteen Thousand One Hundred Fifty Six and Paisa Thirty Only) **due as on 06-07-2023**
3	1) Mr. Anthony, 2) Mrs. Muniyamma	Loan Account No. 46459630001134 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/-	**Schedule-II - Details of Secured Assets - Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing No.179/174/33, Katha ID No.150200401700125016, Situated at Kannamangala Village, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore District, Presently comes under the limits of Kannamangala Gram Panchayath and **Bounded by the: East by:** Private Property, **West by:** Site No.31 and 32, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Road. Measuring East to West: 7.62 Mtr and North to South: 7.62 Mtr., in all measuring 58.07 Sq.mtrs.	Date of NPA: 01-06-2023 Demand Notice Date: 12-07-2023	**Rs.5,08,322.30** (Rupees Five Lakh Eight Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Two and Paisa Thirty Only) **due as on 6-07-2023**
4	1) M/s. Satish Kumar V, 2) Mrs. Sunitha Satish	Loan Account No. 47469610000053 Loan Amount: Rs.15,00,000/-	**Schedule-II - Details of Secured Assets - Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Site No.103/1, Property No.17/1, situated at Seegehalli Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore now comes under the Jurisdiction of BBMP limits, Bangalore Measuring East to West: 40 Feet and North to South: 15 Feet, in all Measuring 600 Sq.ft. and **Bounded as follows: East by:** Road, **West by:** Private Property, **North by:** Site No.103 & **South by:** Site No.104.	Date of NPA: 02-07-2023 Demand Notice Date: 12-07-2023	**Rs.15,06,761.43** (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Six Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty One and Paisa Forty Three Only) **due as on 06-07-2023**

Notice is therefore given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor & Mortgagor as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower within **60 days** of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No. 6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment, is not paid, **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** against the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/ prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor.

Date: 17.07.2023, Place: Bangalore — **Sd/- Authorised Officer, For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(Formally known as Capital First Limited)
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 7th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai-600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.
Authorized Officer Name & No : MS Preeti Toshniwal & 9694702013

IDFC FIRST Bank

APPENDIX- IV-A [See Provision to Rule 8 (6)]
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of IDFC First Bank Limited Formally known as Capital First limited, will be sold on 5th August 2023 "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"for recovery of INR 27,92,232.74 - as on 06-02-2020 due to the IDFC First Bank Limited from **1. Shivanna T, 2. Pavitra Shivanna** The Reserve Price will be Property INR 27,46,872/- (Twenty-Seven Lakhs Forty-Six Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-Two only) 10% of the Reserved Price INR 2,74,687 (Two Lakhs Seventy-Four Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty-Seven Only).

DESCRIPTION OF MORTGAGE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property consisting of All that piece and parcel of the Apartment bearing No. 213, measuring 942 square feet of super built up area at First Floor of the building in the project known as "Pushpam E Town" along with 307 square feet of undivided share of right, title and interest in the land with a car parking space at the basement of the building constructed on the residential^ converted land bearing Survey No.164/3 & 165/1, situated at S Medhalli Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, comprising of stilt, ground and three upper floors building. **Item No. 1 -** land bearing Survey No. 164/3, measuring 0-31 Gunta **Bounded as: North :** Land bearing Survey No. 164 **South :** Land bearing Survey No. 165/2 **East:** Land bearing Survey No. 172 **West :** Land bearing Survey No. 72 **Item No. 2 -** land bearing Survey No. 165/1, measuring 0-25 Gunta **Bounded as: North :** Land bearing Survey No. 164 **South :** Land bearing Survey No. 165/2 **East :** Land bearing Survey No. 172 **West:** Land bearing Survey No. 72

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in IDFC First Bank Limited website i.e. www.idfcfirstbank.com

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Date: 17/07/2023 — IDFC First Bank Limited

While Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation is aiming to purchase new buses and add them to its fleet, it has tasked its bus depots to refurbish old buses. KSRTC MD Anbu Kumar said that nearly 500 buses that have clocked 10 lakh km have been refurbished now, and look brand new

Hoardings with pictures of opposition leaders being put up in Bengaluru on the eve of the two-day opposition conclave, on Sunday. Leaders of 24 political parties will be present | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

BJP ridicules meet, Bommai says it won't have impact on party

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

BJP leaders are writing off national Opposition leaders who have congregated in Bengaluru in a show of unity, ahead of the General Elections in 2024. Terming them no match for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the BJP here is dismissing the leaders as weak and insignificant, and the conclave a waste of time.

Former chief minister Basavaraj Bommai claimed the meeting will have no impact on the BJP. "They are not strong enough to challenge the BJP. More than being opposition parties, they are regional parties."

An article in Organiser, the RSS mouthpiece, said, "The meeting is being held to chalk out the Opposition's strategy for defeating the BJP in the upcoming 2024 general elections."

Putting down the leaders, former MLC Go Madhusudhan said the parties are united in their opposition to PM Modi. "Everyone individually feels they are a match for his personality and all are suffering from an inferiority complex. They are threatened by Modi's continuance in office."

BJP MLC and General Secretary Ravi Kumar said, "Various opposition parties have come together with the sole intention of coming to power, even to the extent of setting aside their ideologies." Criticising the Congress government, he said, "It has been 10 days since the legislative session started, and the Congress is not talking about the Governor's speech or budget, but are interested in the next parliamentary elections. They have fixed the agenda of winning seats in the parliamentary elections. The administrative machinery is being prepared for the Lok Sabha elections. They don't intend to develop India."

Asked about the JDS working in understanding with the BJP, Bommai said, "It is left to the BJP central leadership. It will depend on the outcome of talks between BJP central leaders and former PM HD Deve Gowda."

On BJP extending an invitation to the JDS for an NDA meeting in New Delhi, Ravi Kumar said, "The information I have is that former CM HD Kumaraswamy and former PM Deve Gowda will be going to Delhi. The BJP central leadership comprising JP Nadda, Amit Shah and PM Modi will decide on this," he said. "There are so many political parties which are curious and interested in joining NDA to make their fortunes due to Modi and his programmes for the development of this country," Go Madhusudhan said.

Congress working president and MLC Saleem Ahmed said, "This is a fight against the dictatorial rule of Narendra Modi and the failure of his government. When they purchase MLAs and form governments, what ideology are they talking about?"

FIR registered over derogatory post against Siddaramaiah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mysuru

A complaint was filed in the Cyber, Economic and Narcotics (CEN) police station here on Sunday in connection with a derogatory statement made against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Ravikumar from Mallahalli village in Varuna hobli filed the complaint against one Raji Hindu for making derogatory statements in Instagram against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Congress party with regard to the murder of Yuva Brigade activist Venugopal Nayak in T Narasipura recently.

The Cyber, Economic and Narcotics police have launched a probe to arrest the person who posted the statement.

B'luru Oppn meet to take major decisions to fight Modi, BJP

Conclave significant as LS polls just a yr away; Stalin, Mamata, Nitish among CMs to attend

K SHIVA KUMAR @ Bengaluru

THE stage is set for a two-day opposition conclave in Bengaluru that will start on Monday, with the common agenda of defeating Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bharatiya Janata Party-led NDA government in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

The conclave is set to witness a jump in the number of parties taking part to 24 from 16 in the previous Patna meeting on June 23, 2023.

The meet has gained political importance as former Congress president Sonia Gandhi will participate along with AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, NCP chief Sharad Pawar, chief ministers Nitish Kumar (Bihar), MK Stalin (Tamil Nadu), Mamata Banerjee (West Bengal), Arvind Kejriwal (Delhi) and other national leaders.

The presence of these leaders is expected to give a greater momentum to opposition unity to take on the BJP juggernaut, decide on the leader to head the opposition group, hold one-on-one seat-sharing talks and strategise to avoid a division of anti-BJP votes.

With the elections less than a year away and apprehensions of Modi advancing the polls giving no time for the opposition grouping to plan a cohesive strategy, the leaders at the conclave could set a national narrative against Modi, list out failures of his 10-year rule and talk about confrontations with governors in non-BJP-ruled states.

This is not the first time that Bengaluru has facilitated opposition parties to come together on a common platform. In the past, conclaves were held to drum up support to form national united fronts, bringing leaders like NT Rama Rao, MG Ramachandran, Ramakrishna Hegde, Lalu Prasad Yadav and other prominent leaders to defeat then then powerful Congress.

The conclave is likely to discuss the recent setback to the Nationalist Congress Party, which has been split by Sharad Pawar's nephew Ajit Pawar, who has joined the BJP-Shiv Sena coalition government in Maharashtra.

The deliberations at the meet could centre around avoiding such disasters as BJP has already orchestrated a division in Shiv Sena earlier. In Bihar too, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar who heads a JDU-RJD coalition government faces a similar threat as Jitan Ram Manjhi of Hindustani Awam Morcha has already joined the NDA camp. Lok Janshakti leader and Ram Vilas Paswan's son Chirag Paswan too is set to join NDA.

While BJP is working hard to come back to power for the third consecutive time, the opposition is planning to scuttle a hat-trick and the path towards that end will be laid in Bengaluru.

Somanna stands firm, says he should be made BJP state chief

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@ Bengaluru

FORMER minister V Somanna, who is eyeing the BJP state president post after the party's recent Assembly poll debacle, on Sunday said that if he is denied the post, he will decide on his future course of action after holding consultations with his supporters.

"I have been in politics for 40 years and know the ups and downs. If I am made the state BJP chief, I will toil hard day and night and organise the party. Otherwise I will make an announcement after convening a meeting of my supporters," he said, clearly sending feelers to the BJP high command.

Incumbent BJP state president Nalin Kumar Kateel's three-year tenure has ended and the party is yet to announce his replacement.

Recently, Somanna had expressed his intention to contest the 2024 Lok Sabha elections from Bengaluru South. He had said that the party had always fielded candidates belonging to one particular community from Bengaluru South for over two decades and hence leaders of other communities should be given a chance. BJP Yuva Morcha national president Tejaswi Surya represents Bengaluru South in the Lok Sabha. Somanna, a 72-year-old Linagayat leader, has been sulking ever since losing the May 10 Assembly elections against Siddaramaiah from Varuna and against former minister C Puttarangashetty from Chamarajanagar.

If I am made the state BJP chief, I will toil hard day and night and organise the party

V Somanna, former minister

Somanna blamed his defeat on the lack of unity among the party's top leaders in the state. Since he had "sacrificed" his Govindarajanagar seat in Bengaluru to contest from Varuna and Chamarajanagar, he wants the party to reward him by appointing him as the party state chief.

Ahead of the Assembly polls, political corridors were abuzz with Somanna planning to join the Congress after he held talks with KPCC president DK Shivakumar. However, Union Home Minister Amit Shah intervened and had called Somanna to New Delhi to convince him to stay in the BJP.

Hampi's famous Stone Chariot and Vijaya Vittala Temple illuminated on Sunday on the last day of the Third G20 Sherpa meeting | KPN

G20 Sherpa meet concludes in Hampi

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR
@ Hampi

THE third meeting of G20 Sherpa at Hampi, chaired by Indian G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant, concluded on Sunday. Over 120 delegates from G20 countries, invitee countries and various international organisations came together to jointly draft and co-create the 'Leaders Declaration'.

The meet engaged in three days of hard negotiations with the aim to foster transformative, action-oriented initiatives, that is holistic and imbibes the spirit of one world, one family. Sherpas and head of delegations worked on the draft of the Leaders Declaration that reflects the collective resolve of G20 nations to drive progress on critical global issues, and commitment to prioritise sustainable development and tackle pressing challenges.

Speaking to media persons, Kant said that the draft text covers six priorities, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), green development, multilateral development banks reforms, digital public infrastructure, gender equality, and incorporates the outcomes from the various working groups.

"By ensuring an emphasis on developmental goals, Indian Presidency intends to preserve the G20 identity and ethos as a development forum that bring together developed and emerging economies on a common platform....," he added. India also held productive bilateral discussions during the course of the 3-day meeting.

EXPRESS READ

Will recruit PSIs after getting clearance from court: Parameshwara

BENGALURU: Home Minister G Parameshwara on Sunday said that State Government will recruit 545 Police Sub inspectors along with 400 more after getting clearance from the court. Speaking to reporters, the minister said that there is shortage of sub-inspectors in the Police department. Stressing on the PSI recruitment scam, he said at present inquiry is going in the right direction and there is no need for judicial inquiry. He said that the previous government had ordered for re-exams for recruitment of PSIs. A few went to the court questioning re-exams and got the stay order. "We have sent our opinion to the court in a sealed envelope. We are waiting for the directive from the court" he said. He also said they will take action based on the court order. ENS

'COST OF RAW MATERIAL AND TRANSPORTION UP'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

"THE prices of all items are skyrocketing and it's not temporary. Our electricity bills have seen a considerable spike in the last two months. Our restaurant spaces are not owned by us and landlords have increased rents as well. If we don't increase food prices, how will we meet our margins," asked Praveen D Jathan, Member of Karnataka Hotels Association.

Not just hotels, but homemakers, small eateries and coffee sellers are also feeling the pinch of increased prices across categories. In Bengaluru, small shop owners selling coffee powder said the price of coffee beans has gone up. A bag of 50 kg used to be Rs 12,800, but it has gone up to Rs 14,000. "Earlier, we used to get 500 gm of coffee for Rs 200, now the prices have increased to Rs 220, our monthly budget is shooting up," said Sudha Kumar, a resident of Banashankari.

Robusta coffee plantations have been affected the most by the change in the weather pattern, say experts | FILE PHOTO

Some coffee traders said they have so many other costs to look at, such as electricity tariff, quality of coffee and employees' salary. "Nobody realises that the cost of raw material and transport has gone up and also the machinery used to blend coffee beans are expensive," said Shankar DR, Shyams Coffee, Srirampura.

PC Rao, president, Bruhat Bengaluru Hotel Association (BBHA), said, "There is a chance that milk prices will be hiked by Rs 3-5 and coffee prices are also going up, which will not come down anytime soon. These are not temporary prices, they will last and to maintain quality we will have to increase prices." He added that restaurants are selling coffee at Rs 12 per cup and it can go up to Rs 15-20 in some places.

Coffee growers' take

Karnataka Planters' Association Chairman Mahesh Shashidhar said, "The prices are increasing in the international market and the weather has been adverse for the last couple of years.

Even the prices of fertilisers used in coffee farms have increased by 10 per cent." He added that the production per unit area per farmer is decreasing. He, however, said farmers are not getting a lot from the hiked prices. Many are just recovering the costs incurred during Covid and many sellers are hiking prices on their own.

"The inflation in coffee prices, as compared to last year, is just 5% and the costs in markets are constantly changing." Robusta coffee plantations have been affected the most by the change in the weather pattern. Delayed showers, extreme summer conditions and the cost to build good irrigation systems have increased the burden on the farmers around the state, said the planters' association.

Bangles & bisi oota: Centre issued norms, says Siddu

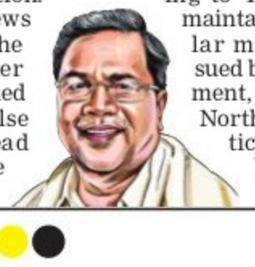
ENS @ Bengaluru

A circular on hygiene and food safety, instructing midday meal 'bisi oota' staff in government and aided schools and colleges not to wear bangles while at work, went viral. "Nail polish or artificial nails should not be worn because they can become foreign bodies, and may compromise food safety. No watches, rings, jewellery and bangles should be worn during cooking, serving and distribution, where there is a danger of contamination of the product," a circular issued on July 7 said, turning into a bone of contention.

As some private news channels telecast the news, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah clarified in a tweet that "False news is being spread widely that the state government has issued guidelines banning the wearing of bangles by 'bisioota' workers. In fact, the Central Government has issued a guideline regarding 'Poshan Yojana', banning the wearing of bangles".

According to sources, the state government's circular is based on the Centre's guidelines as 'Poshan' is a central government sponsored scheme. "It is there in the circular issued by the Ministry of Education," an official said.

Former primary and secondary education minister BC Nagesh of the BJP, speaking to *TNIE* over phone, maintained that the circular must have been issued by the state government, and that women in North India are not particular about wearing bangles.



Four women were killed and two others were seriously injured when a speeding car hit them while they were waiting for a bus near Kottakuppam in Viluppuram district in Tamil Nadu on Sunday. The man who was at the wheel and four others travelling in the car also sustained injuries

INDIRA CANTEEN BACK ON TRACK

CM Siddaramaiah's pet project has run into a few hurdles, like bad quality of food and poor maintenance

MOHAMMAD YACOOB @ Bengaluru

INDIRA Canteen, the pet project of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah launched during his first term from 2013-2018, which aims at ensuring good quality meals to the poor, migrant and labour class at cheap rates, has been revived by the Congress government. In his recent budget, the CM announced an allocation of ₹100 crore for renovation and maintenance of these public canteens.

To give the project a further push, and revive those which have shut down, the state government is also working on changing breakfast, lunch and dinner menus. Sweet dishes and festival savouries would be included in the menus, while keeping the cost factor in mind.

Although the government had intended to have Indira Canteens across the state, covering all 314 urban local bodies (ULBs), so far they have been established in 191 ULBs, the highest number being in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) limits. They were to be set up with 30 per cent share from the state government and 70 per cent from local bodies and corporations. The project was given a push in BBMP limits, with 169 fixed and 8 mobile canteens operating in Bengaluru, which houses the highest number of migrant labourers, patients, citizens and job seekers from rural Karnataka.

Indira Canteens saw a decline since 2018 due to political reasons, as officials could not manage finances and discrepancies with the contractors. Due to this, around 20 Indira Canteens, including mobile ones, were shut, most of them in Bengaluru South and RR Nagar.

However, now the state government not just wants to reopen the ones that have shut, but also start them in all ULBs, BBMP in particular. The revised menu proposal includes adding bread-jam sandwiches, ragi mudde, Mangaluru buns and payasam. "We plan to have the new menu on alternate days, and not regularly. There were suggestions that eggs be added, but that proposal has not been sent to the state government for approval," said an urban development department official.

Pending bills

More than the public, officials and agencies maintaining the canteens are worried, and hoping for a successful revival. Officials admitted that many patrons complain of poor quality food, poor maintenance, staff crunch, pending bills and even improper supply of drinking water from Bangalore Water Supply Sewerage Board. According to a contractor running an Indira Canteen in Bengaluru, BBMP has to clear pending bills worth Rs 84 crore to various agencies, including staff of Chef Talks, Rewards and Adamya Chetana.

"Chef Talks runs 96 canteens across South Zone, Bommanahalli and West Zone. Rewards caters to 45 wards in Mahadevpura, Yelahanka and Dasarahalli, and Adamya Chetana looks at 40 wards in East Zone. Bills worth Rs 45 crore are yet to be cleared for Chef Talks, bills for Rs 21 crore for Rewards and Rs 18 crore pending to Adamya Chetana," said the UDD official.

BIG PICTURE

Contractor agencies have also blamed municipalities for turning a blind eye to lurking danger at centralised kitchens, as steam boilers of 250-litres capacity used to cook rice have developed cracks and need to be changed immediately. "The warranty is for three years, the kitchen equipment should have been replaced three years after installation. We gave representations to the BBMP Chief Commissioner, BBMP Special Commissioner and BBMP Joint Commissioner, but there has still not been any response to it. A blast can occur any time and those working in the vicinity will suffer grievous injuries or even death," said a contractor working with the state government.

Quantity, quality take a hit

Earlier, 500 plates of breakfast and lunch, and 200 plates of dinner were served. But now the number has dropped by 50 per cent due to payment issues. "We are not able to deliver quality and quantity due to expenses. We have not yet paid salaries to over 300 staffers for the past three months. Also, around 50 per cent of the staff has left in the past week. We cannot run the show if BBMP does not clear outstanding bills," the contractor said.

In case of Bengaluru, the contractors also blame marshals appointed by the government as officials to keep a check on solid waste management and Indira Canteens. They say the marshals sleep inside the canteens, which is not hygienic.

Most of the canteens do not have Cauvery water supply connections in Bengaluru, as BWSSB has cut their lines due to payment issues with the BBMP. Similar is the situation in other ULBs, where clearing of bills continues to be an issue. The situation is worse due to poor maintenance and hygiene.

In Kalaburagi, seven public canteens were shut down in the past seven months, and the agencies that operate them blame it on a lack of funds.

Similar is the condition in Dakshina Kannada, where the public is upset with the quality of food, and point out that cleanliness is a big concern. Dheeraj, a lecturer from Mangaluru, said many college students wish to visit Indira Canteens located near their college, as breakfast and lunch is served at affordable prices, but don't because of the unhygienic conditions around the canteen and low quality food. This needs to be addressed immediately. Open defecation is common near the canteen, which is close to the service area and bus stand. Garbage is also dumped nearby, he said.

Adding to this, G K Bhat, an activist from Mangaluru, said half-cooked food is served, and leftover lunch is served in the evening.

In Kodagu, only two canteens are functioning -- in Madikeri and Virajpet -- and that too with minimum facilities. Very few people visit them. In case of Somwarpet, only foundation work was completed for the Indira Canteen. Hardly 50 people visit the canteens during weekdays, and on Sundays, the number goes down to 20.

In Shivamogga, only four Indira Canteens are running smoothly ever since they were inaugurated. Officials said they were not closed, and continue to operate even during the pandemic.

Amogh, Assistant Executive Engineer (Environment), Shivamogga City Corporation, said all the canteens have been receiving good response since the time they were inaugurated. The quality of food and hygiene has been maintained, as done earlier. He added that 400-450 plates of breakfast and 150-200 plates of lunch are served at each Indira Canteen. So around 600-800 plates of lunch are served on a daily basis. However, there is not much demand for dinner here, with just 80-100 plates served at all four canteens collectively.

However, members of Karnataka Dalit Sangharsha Samithi (DSS) recently staged a protest against a lack of cleanliness and basic amenities at Indira Canteens, and demanded that the city corporation repair them and provide drinking water units. With no proper doors, the canteens had become a hotspot for drunkards to carry out illegal activities in the night hours. They also alleged there is a lack of security at night.

NAME CHANGE

When in power, the BJP government, in a bid to make the project their own, contemplated renaming Indira Canteens. Many names were floated, like that of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee or just Annapoorna Canteens.

The project was launched by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in Kanakanapalya, near Ashoka Pillar, in August 2017. He also had breakfast at the Indira Canteen.

(With inputs from Ramakrishna Badseshi, Prajna GR, Arpita I and Divya Cutinho)

Indira Canteen was a good initiative by the Siddaramaiah government, but the project took a hit after the government changed. The BJP government could have just changed the name and ensured proper operations. Now that the programme has got more funds, I hope it is strengthened. The daily nutrition requirement of a person ranges between 2,200 and 2,400 calories, and public canteens should ensure at least 600-800 calories of nutrition per meal. —Veena Shatrugna, clinical nutritionist and former Deputy Director, National Institute of Nutrition

MENU

- Breakfast at Rs 5: Idli, vada, khara bath, pongal, bisibele bath
- Lunch at Rs 10: Rice, sambar, pickle and pappadam, or vegetable pulao
- Food is prepared at centralised kitchens and then distributed
- 199 Indira Canteens sanctioned by Siddaramaiah government in 2017
- 175 static and 24 mobile canteens were operational initially
- In Bengaluru, about 175 canteens were set up and 24 mobile canteens were set up
- Of 175 canteens, 6 were shut and 16 mobile canteens were closed
- ₹84 cr to be paid to agencies pending since 14 months

SAFETY OF WORKERS AT INDIRA CANTEEN AT STAKE: Steam boiler develops cracks, needs replacement, a blast can kill 10 people in the vicinity

- No Cauvery water connection, agencies forced to give tanker water in BBMP limits
- Illegal activities at Indira Canteen at Shivamogga

2 farmers find diamonds, sell them for ₹30L

K MADHU SUDHAKAR @ Kurnool

IN a span of just 48 hours, two farmers in the district struck rich as they got their hands on two diamonds, worth ₹30 lakh, in two separate villages in Maddikera mandal in Andhra Pradesh. This has prompted several enthusiastic diamond hunters to test their luck.

One farmer, a native of Peravali, found a diamond on Friday, which he later sold for ₹5 lakh. Another ryot from Madanantapuram village found the precious stone on Sunday, for which he received ₹25 lakh. They both were working in their farms when the diamonds were spotted. The duo reportedly sold the diamonds to a merchant in Maddikera mandal headquarters. It has been learnt that they received ₹10 lakh and some gold as initial payment in return for the stones.

Maddikera sub-inspector Rizwan said to TNIE that the hunt for precious stones generally begins in May every year and continues until the monsoon ends. "However, this year, we have not received any information about farmers finding any precious gems," he added.

On June 5, it was reported that a farmer had found a diamond valued at over ₹2 crore at Basinepalli village. Police and local authorities, however, have refuted it.

Several enthusiasts test their fortune and go on a hunt for diamonds in Jonnagiri, Tuggali, Maddikera, Pagidirayi and Peravali, between May and November every year. These regions are said to be diamond-rich.

FOR PROSPERITY

Devotees gather at Sri Simhavahini Mahankali temple to offer Bonam on the occasion of Bonalu Festival in Lal Darwaza, located in the Old City of Hyderabad on Sunday | SRILOGANATHAN VELMURUGAN

Terror convict shifted to Nagpur from Belagavi over threat calls to Gadkari

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Belagavi

THE NIA took the custody of terror convict Afsar Pasha, who was lodged in Hindalga Central Jail in Belagavi, in connection with threat calls to Union Surface Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari. The man who made the threat calls, Jayesh Pujari, another prisoner in Hindalga jail, was arrested by the Nagpur police in March this year.

Jayesh Pujari alias Jayesh Kantha, a double murder convict in Mangaluru and prime accused in various other cases, was imprisoned at the Hindalga Jail. He made the threat calls to Gadkari on January 14 and March 21 using a cell phone from the Hindalga Jail. He had threatened to explode a bomb if the minister did not pay Rs 10 crore. The Maharashtra police, who investigated the case, took Jayesh into custody after registering a complaint at the Nagpur police station.

NIA officials shift convict Afsar Pasha after taking him in custody

During the inquiry, the police found that Pasha, who has links with terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba, had instigated Jayesh to make the calls. Pasha has been convicted for the lone-wolf terror attack at the Indian Institute of Science in Bengaluru in 2005.

On receiving information from the Nagpur police, NIA officials arrived in Belagavi a couple of days ago. After all the procedures, NIA officials took Pasha into custody on Saturday and left for Mumbai by road. He was grilled for the whole day on Saturday. NIA officials later handed him over to the Nagpur police.

Clash between state police, jail officers

Sources said that a verbal clash broke out between officers of the state police and jail officials over security issues at Hindalga Jail. The Nagpur police and NIA officials were in Belagavi since Thursday (July 13) to probe the threat calls to Union minister Nitin Gadkari.The police told jail officials that they put in a lot of effort to arrest criminals, but jail officials are negligent, allowing mobile phones, SIM cards and chargers into the prison that allowed the prisoner to make the threat calls

Scammers deepfake superior, dupe retd govt official of ₹40k

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kozhikode

FRAUDSTERS, who were duping people by creating fake profiles on social media till now, have upped their game.

In what could be a first crime of its kind in the state, a 68-year-old retired Union government employee from Kozhikode lost Rs 40,000 soon after receiving a video call from a person claiming to be his former senior colleague and seeking money for an emergency. As it turned out, a scammer had used deepfake tech to convince the victim that it was a "genuine" call.

Thanks to quick action taken by the Kerala Cyber Police, the money that was lost on July 9 was traced and the perpetrator's account blocked.

P S Radhakrishnan, a resident of Chalapuram, had received a phone call from a person claiming to be his former senior colleague from Andhra Pradesh.

"When I turned on the internet connection on my phone later, I received several messages on WhatsApp from the same number. The display picture was of my former colleague. I then received a video call from the same number and the person on the other side looked like my ex-colleague. However, the video call was brief," Radhakrishnan recalled.

"The person enquired about my family members. I did not feel any suspicion. He then sought money urgently for the surgery of a relative at a hospital in Mumbai," Radhakrishnan said. Not suspecting anything, Radhakrishnan sent the Rs 40,000 sought by the person via GooglePay. However, the scammer called again seeking another Rs 30,000. That's when Radhakrishnan felt something was amiss. When he dialled his colleague's old number, he realised he had been duped.

The elderly filed a complaint with the Cyber Police after learning that his other friends had also received messages from the same person seeking money.

Police suspect the scammers were using deepfake tech to fake people's faces and voices.

EXPRESS READ

21 fall ill due to water contamination in Pavagada

TUMAKURU: 21 people including children fell ill after consuming contaminated water at a residential area of YN Hosakote town in Pavagada taluk. For the past three days, the residents of the ST Colony have been complaining of vomiting and diarrhea. They were admitted to the local hospitals and also the government hospital at Pavagada town. District health officer (DHO) D N Manjunath, based on the report by the taluk officials who had visited the spot, suspected that water contamination was the reason for the incident. "Samples will be sent to the laboratory to ascertain the cause of the water borne disease as to which bacteria was involved," he said.

Cong to hold first 'diversity meet'

CYNTHIA CHANDRAN @T'Puram

THE Congress state leadership's inaugural 'bahuswaratha sadassu' (diversity meet), in response to the union government's proposed implementation of the Uniform Civil Code, is scheduled to take place at Mananchira grounds in Kozhikode on Saturday.

Notably, the Congress has decided to address the issue of violence in Manipur as well. Following the CPM's seminar on the UCC in Kozhikode, Congress State President K Sudhakaran taunted them, questioning their capacity to organise a seminar on a national issue when they only have a government in Kerala.

The Congress state leadership found satisfaction when LDF convener E P Jayarajan abstained from their seminar held in Kozhikode on Saturday. The CPM also faced criticism from Muslim women activists who were denied permission to share the stage.

The Congress leadership is pulling out all the stops to ensure the resounding success of the meeting and aims to address the challenges faced by the CPM during their seminar. Sudhakaran has appointed senior MP K Muraleedharan as the chairman of the diversity meeting scheduled to take place in Kozhikode. Muraleedharan said that preparations are underway to accommodate 5,000 people at Mananchira grounds, where no LDF or BJP leaders will be invited for the UCC seminar.

"Along with the UCC issue, we have also decided to raise the Manipur violence. All political parties and Muslim organisations, except the LDF and BJP, will be invited to attend the diversity meeting. We will ensure that everyone, including Muslim women, has the opportunity to express their concerns," he added.

KCR TO CONTEST LS ELECTION FROM MAHARASHTRA?

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY @ Hyderabad

BRS president and Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao is likely to contest one of the Lok Sabha constituencies in Maharashtra. Party sources have confirmed that the chief minister is considering contesting from Medak from where he had won previously and from one of the LS segments bordering with Telangana in the neighbouring State.

According to sources, the BRS chief is getting a survey conducted by Cicero, a Delhi-based national election agency, to get the pulse of the voters in other States to field his party candidates in the next General Elections. The agency with a long experience in the field, has provided election survey services to various parties, including the Rashtriya Janata Dal, Samajwadi Party and several prominent news channels.BRS sources stated that the agency started survey last month to identify suitable constituencies for the party candidates in other States. The agency is said to have formed special teams to identify the segments favourable for the BRS in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka.

Also, the BRS leaders are said to be looking at roping in film personalities from these States to contest in the Lok Sabha elections in 2024 on the party ticket. According to sources, party leaders are in talks with Tamil actor Vijay who had met the chief minister in May 2022.

EDITORIAL

Beware of false knowledge; it is more dangerous than ignorance

George Bernard Shaw

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

CURIOUS CASE OF THE MISSING RAFALE-Ms IN FRENCH DEAL BASKET

If big decisions to buy Predator drones and the manufacture of GE jet aircraft engines in India headlined Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US in January, accords on 26 marine Rafale fighter jets and three Scorpene submarines were expected to be right up there in the talking points about his recent France trip. Just as it happened ahead of the US visit, the defence acquisition council did the spadework by granting 'acceptance of necessity' for the Rafales and Scorpenes a day before the Bastille Day parade in Paris, for which Modi was the chief guest. Why, then, were they missing in the final accords? "The metrics of defence partnership are not defined by a single acquisition or non-acquisition, a single procurement or transaction," foreign secretary Vijay Mohan Kwatra cryptically said in response to media queries. Confirmation, however, on the Rafales came a day later from its manufacturer, Dassault Aviation. "The Indian Government announced the selection of the Navy Rafale to equip the Indian Navy with a latest-generation fighter," Dassault said in a statement. It added that the 26 Rafale-Ms would eventually join the 36 Rafales already in Indian service. Also, the Scorpenes were on an earlier version of the agreements hosted on the foreign ministry site but slipped out of the final one.

Going silent on such major acquisitions was decidedly odd for a government that likes to take credit for every little movement forward. While speculation is rife on its motive, chances are it wanted to keep the Rafale-Ms out of the political dogfight in the run-up to the general elections less than a year away. The estimated cost of the Rafale-Ms and Scorpenes is around ₹80,000 crore. Such big-ticket spending may be important to enhance the country's security, but they do not necessarily fetch votes. Besides, Rafales faced serious corruption charges during the last general elections, but the allegations could not be established. The Congress had sought to whip up a storm after the MQ-9B Predator pact, claiming it was way too expensive though the final price was yet to be negotiated.

France can be expected to keep its own counsel as it is the ultimate beneficiary of the deals. It's been India's all-weather friend for at least 25 years, supporting the country even during the international sanctions in the aftermath of the Pokhran-2 nuclear bomb tests. It deserves as much weightage as the US in bilateral deals.

IF GOVT INVESTS, GIVE IT SLICE OF BUSINESS PROFITS

It is often said that governments have no business being in business. Public sector enterprises are seen as destroyers of wealth; therefore, the private sector is left with the task of creating big corporations and innovations and providing jobs. The widely held belief is that a government should, at best, be the facilitator. But if the government invests in a corporation, it should also receive direct gains from it.

Governments globally are investing massive amounts of public money to offer subsidies to companies setting up semiconductor plants. The US has announced a $39-bn subsidy for companies setting up semiconductor units in the country, and Germany will offer a $11-bn subsidy to Intel for a $34-bn plant. The Indian government has announced fiscal support of 50% of the project cost to companies setting up chip plants in the country. In the recently announced Micron plant in Gujarat, Central and state governments will bear 70% of the cost of setting up the plant. Despite contributing a major chunk of initial funding, both will not have any stake in the company.

The shortage of semiconductor fabs and chips in 2020 and 2021 forced governments across the world to secure indigenous sources of supply and reduce dependence on countries like Taiwan and China. To attract investments in the sector, governments in several countries have been doling out subsidies and funds to companies. There is a moral dilemma in all this for the governments. While the governments risk taxpayers' money to create the semiconductor ecosystem, they don't gain anything directly if the risk pays off. Like in the venture capital model, governments must ask for a minority stake in the corporations they are funding and exit with some gains if the ventures succeed. There could be other models as well. For instance, the US government has a condition which states that companies receiving more than $150 million in funding should share with the government a portion of profit if it exceeds a certain agreed threshold.

Economist Mariana Mazzucato, in her book *The Entrepreneurial State*, has rightly argued that risk-taking has been an increasingly collective endeavour—with the state playing a leading role in the 'open innovation' system—while the returns have been unequally distributed. The risk-reward dynamic currently is skewed too much in favour of private funds, and it is time for this to change.

QUICK TAKE

FUND SPACE FORAYS

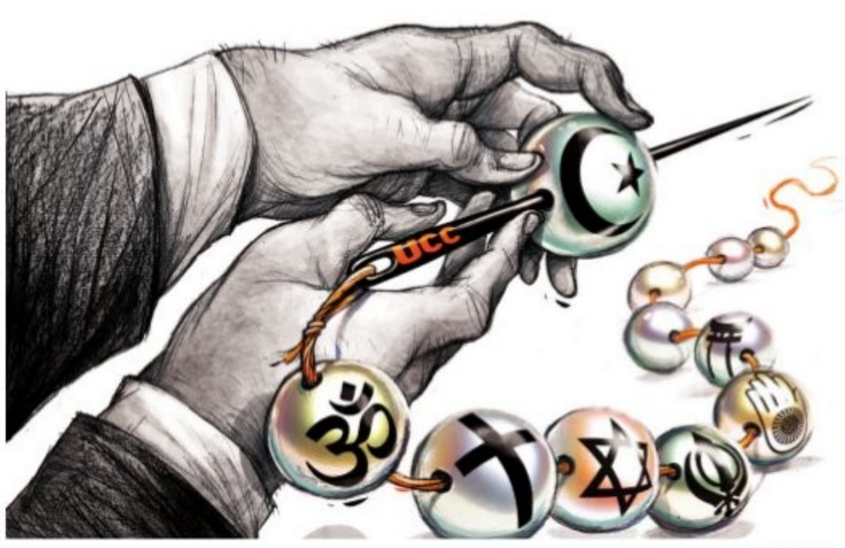
Isro's lander rover may soon reach the moon. A crewed mission, Gaganyaan-3, is next, followed by the Venus and Mars orbiters. India's space exploration is taking off. Yet, the Department of Space's budget of ₹12,543.91 crore this year is 8% lower than the budget estimate. The sector urgently needs monetary injections and private sector push. India's space projects are uniquely cost-effective, but that costs too. India must share tech knowledge with private players, encouraging them to shift from being ancillaries to making satellites. Private funding for space-based applications, research and innovation and FDI in space are parts of the road ahead.

Irrespective of which side one is on, it is important to revisit the Constituent Assembly debate on November 23, 1948

WHY NARRATIVES AGAINST THE UCC MUST CHANGE

A SURYA PRAKASH

Vice-Chairman, Executive Council, Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, New Delhi



SOUMYADIP SINHA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has publicly raised the issue of the Uniform Civil Code, and the Law Commission of India has sought a public response to the proposal. While these developments have triggered a positive response from citizens who feel that the time has come to bring about unity in civil laws, some, primarily those who claim to represent Muslims and those who adhere to Nehruvian pseudo-secular values, have opposed the move.

Irrespective of which side one is on, it is important to revisit the debate in the Constituent Assembly that took place on November 23, 1948, when Article 35 of the draft Constitution (now 44) was adopted, and consider the views of the opponents of the provision as well as those in favour, including Dr B R Ambedkar, the Chairman of the drafting committee.

Taking up the Article for discussion, some members moved amendments saying there must be a proviso against touching the personal laws of communities. These amendments, moved or endorsed by Muhammad Ismail Sahib, Naziruddin Ahmad, Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur, B Pocker Sahib Bahadur and Hussain Imam, virtually sought to negate the idea of a UCC. As can be seen from the list of speakers, all the five Muslim members of the Assembly opposed the UCC, some vehemently, just 15 months after the Muslims in India broke away to form an Islamic State, and the majority of Hindus in India chose to have a secular, democratic nation.

Cut to 2023, 75 years after this debate, and you will realise nothing has changed. Muslim opposition to the UCC remains the same. The All India Muslim Personal Law Board, Asaduddin Owaisi, head of the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM), Maulana Arshad Madani, Vice-Chancellor of Darul Uloom, Deoband, and president of Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind, and Shafiqur Rahman Barq, Samajwadi Party MP, are some of the Muslim institutions and individuals who have vehemently opposed the UCC.

And, after all, what does Article 44 say? "The State shall endeavour to secure for its citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India." It was just an advisory to the State to work towards a common civil law.

Hussain Imam asked whether one could have uniformity in civil law in a country as diverse as India. Muhammad Ismail Sahib equated personal laws with religion and said the UCC would interfere with laws people have been observing for generations. Naziruddin Ahmad claimed that laws relating to marriage and inheritance were part of Islam and hence immutable. He said democratic India should not do what the British were afraid to do for 175 years. Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur claimed that succession, inheritance, marriage and divorce laws were completely dependent on Islam and hence should not be touched. Pocker Sahib Bahadur went so far as to describe the Article on UCC as a "tyrannous provision which ought not to be tolerated" and that if it were to be passed, "it is not democracy at all; it is tyranny".

Ambedkar's reply to the criticism showed how vacuous the arguments of the Muslim members were. Responding to Hussain Imam's query as to whether it is desirable to have a uniform code of laws in a country as vast and diverse as India, Ambedkar said he was very much surprised by that statement "for the simple reason that we have in this country a uniform code of laws covering almost every aspect of human relationship". This included the complete Criminal Procedure Code, the Transfer of Property Act, the Negotiable Instruments Act, and a Civil Procedure Code practically covering the whole field, uniform in its content and applicable to the whole of India.

Only a "little corner"—marriage and succession—was left out. The idea was to enter this corner. He also pooh-poohed the Muslim member's claim that Muslims were governed by the Shariat since times immemorial because, until 1937, when the Shariat Act was enacted, Hindu law in matters of succession governed Muslims in large parts of the country, including the United Provinces, Central Provinces, Bombay and Malabar. In Malabar, they followed the Marumakkathayam Law, a matriarchal law. Therefore "there was no use" in contending that Muslim Law is immutable and was followed from ancient times.

Further, the Shariat Act of 1937 incorporated elements from Hindu Law, excluded agricultural land and permitted Muslims to make wills and testaments (which goes against the Shariat Law).

As S Gurumurthy has explained, this was done to suit Muhammad Ali Jinnah and the wealthy land-owning Muslims. So, where is the question of the "immutability" of Shariat Law?

K M Munshi said the Article that provides all citizens with the right to profess and practice the religion of their choice permits Parliament to make laws about religious activity that falls within the sphere of secular activity, social reform or social welfare. Referring to changes in Hindu law, he said most provisions would run counter to Manu and Yajnavalkya. He said many things like inheritance or succession had nothing to do with religion, and "we want to divorce religion from personal law".

Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar said marriage is purely a civil contract under Muslim law. "The idea of a sacrament (as in Hindu law) does not enter into the concept of marriage in Muslim jurisprudence. ... Therefore, there is no question of religion being in danger." He made a very significant point after that when he said, "After all, the only community that is willing to adapt itself to changing times seems to be the majority community in the country." He further said they are even willing to take lessons from the minority community as they seek to reform Hindu law.

Ayyar summed it up succinctly when he argued in favour of a UCC. He said, "We want the whole of India to be welded and united together as a single nation. Are we helping these factors ... or is this country to be kept up always as a series of competing communities? This is the question at issue". Munshi was even more assertive. He said, "We must put our foot down and say that these matters are not religion, they are purely matters for secular legislation."

(suryamedia@gmail.com)

MAHABHARATA: A BOOK OF HOPE, NOT FEAR

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

It has long surprised me that many people in North India do not keep a copy of the *Mahabharata* at home because of a local belief that, as a book of war, it will cause trouble in the family. What they may keep are the *Bhagavad Gita* and the *Ramayana*. But is the *Ramayana* also not a story of family politics leading to trouble? Moreover, the *Mahabharata* is alternatively known as 'Jaya' or Victory, which is wholly positive.

Purely as a cultural observation and without judgement, I find this apparent fear of the *Bharatam* missing in the South where homes are decorated with an inlaid wooden wall plaque of the 'Parthasarathiyam'. It is the scene of Krishna as Arjuna's charioteer at Kurukshetra. People even gift the Parthasarathiyam at weddings. This is because the image embodies the holy writ of the *Bhagavad Gita* and is considered an auspicious and inspiring sight for the eye to rest on during the journey of life.

Indeed, the epic is a marvelous treatise on anger management and a stark guide on what we could do and must not do. A striking example is the contrast between Duryodhana and Yudhishthira.

Unlike Duryodhana, Yudhishthira, although a brave warrior, is a sworn 'peacenik', always seeking to diffuse situations and tone things down to a state of equanimity. But it does not come easy. Draupadi and Bhima constantly reproach him and quarrel with him about his pacifist attitude and bemoan their terrible fate. Those years of exile are a long, heavy period of reproach for Yudhishthira and it is quite remarkable that he does not go to pieces but gently talks himself and the others out of it. Sometimes, when he is particularly down and out, he happens to be counselled by Rishi Markandeya who tells him stories to restore perspective.

Rishi Markandeya visits the Pandavas twice in exile, once in the Kamyaka forest to the west of the Kurukshetra plain, and another time in the Dvaitavana forest on the border of the Thar Desert. One time, his visit coincides with Krishna's. This rishi is a great favourite of theirs as he is an excellent storyteller. They like to sit around him and enjoy long story sessions. It conjures up a lovely picture of the Pandavas listening to stories in the forest including important tales like that of the Ramayana and Nala-Damayanti.

We, too, may think poorly of Yudhishthira for his weakness for dice and for gambling it all away. Moreover, he blots his stainless record of honesty by murmuring on the battlefield that the elephant Ashvatthama was dead, implying that it was Drona's son. But in the end, it is Yudhishthira who goes to heaven in Indra's chariot for sticking to his principles. I have often wondered about this aspect of Yudhishthira's character and found some fascinating clues in a passage of the *Mahabharata* called the 'Yaksha Prashna' or the Yaksha's Questions.

Krishna offers emotional counsel to the unhappy Arjuna. Centrally, he tries to give Arjuna the long perspective on life, how to live it, and its often unpleasant duties, and assures him of his total spiritual support

The episode of the Yaksha Prashna, when read in full, is a thought-provoking passage on life choices. It takes place between Yudhishthira and his heavenly father, Yama, disguised as a 'Yaksha' or spirit.

In the middle of a war story we hear the question, "What is the highest duty in the world?" and Yudhishthira's moving answer, "To abstain from injury is the highest of all duties." Yudhishthira's sensible, insightful nature shines through in this passage and sets a gold standard of good behaviour worthy of a 'Dharmaputra'.

Such ethical epiphanies could sometimes be missing from the renditions of the *Bharatam* that we may have read, and so we may not be up to speed with the *saar* or essence of the epic or realise how cleverly Vyasa weaves in values through stories. I would go so far as to say that the *Bhagavad Gita*, if read by itself and out of its epic context, can be heavy reading. Whereas reading the Yaksha Prashna is much easier and can be taught from a young age.

In my view, if one tries reading the *Gita* in the flow of the epic, it makes more sense than it might otherwise in its dispassionate loftiness.

My bank manager, in his late thirties, once said that he tried reading the *Gita* but felt it was "a big ego trip" by Krishna. We talked about it. I shared my feeling that when we read it within the epic, we are able to grasp its nature as a powerful pep talk and can appreciate how Krishna offers emotional counsel to the unhappy Arjuna. Centrally, he tries to give Arjuna the long perspective on life, how to live it, and its often unpleasant duties, and assures him of his total spiritual support. The *Vishwaroopam* is a grand bonus that takes things to the ultimate level. The *Gita's* poetic beauty, when explained to us, is another reason for its popularity. My bank manager seemed open to the idea.

Meanwhile, I find that I don't relate to Bhishma. Perhaps because of his own sacrifice, he took a narrow view of duty, sacrificing the happiness of others for the Kaurava throne, and most shocking of all, did nothing to stop the disrobing of Draupadi. But close to death, from his bed of arrows, he gives wonderful advice to Yudhishthira and imparts the *Vishnu Sahasranamam*. We can hear this power paean to Krishna on YouTube chanted by the late M S Subbulakshmi. The *Bharatam* is thus a part of daily life through books, music and art, and nobody, as far as I know, has come to grief specifically because of it.

The most haunting passage for me is the passing of Krishna at the end, after more than 125 years on earth. It is heartbreaking to read but I would not miss the complex and intense emotional journey of the *Bharatam* for anything. I am happy to have it at home to re-read as much for its exciting narrative pace as for its inspiring passages, not forgetting Krishna's promise of hope that "I will appear from age to age".

(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Rahul's conviction

This is with reference to the news *Rahul approaches SC to challenge conviction* (July 16). The very fact that the trial judge awarded the maximum punishment of two years in a defamation suit which would entail disqualification to the accused makes it evident that there was a method to the madness. One only hopes that the Supreme Court will carefully weigh the pros and cons and come up with a decision that is free, fair and unbiased.

C V Aravind, Bengaluru

Defamation case

Rahul Gandhi has said that upholding the Gujarat High Court verdict of his conviction in the defamation case would amount to throttling free speech and expression. This is a poor defence for his actions. He doesn't seem to know the real meaning of this constitutional right. Rahul deliberately defamed the Modi surname.

C M Umanath, Calicut

India's trade

India has started reaping the global benefits of becoming a rising economic power in the world. Its agreement with the UAE to start trading in local currencies is the latest example in this regard. There are signs that the global trust in the Indian rupee is rising. This is a proud moment.

Athulya M, Hyderabad

EV sales

This is with reference to the news *EV buyers in UP can apply for subsidy through govt portal, says Yogi* (July 16). Emissions from vehicles are major causes of air pollution in urban areas. The Uttar Pradesh government's subsidy for electric vehicles to promote sales is a welcome move. Every state across the country should have such a subsidy scheme to control air pollution.

P Victor Selvaraj, Palayamkottai

Panchayat polls

The violence before and after the West Bengal panchayat polls cannot be compared to the violence in other parts of the country. In Bengal, in several panchayat wards, nominations could not be filed by the opposition candidates. It was a premeditated move by Mamata to intimidate the opposition by not allowing central forces to control the violence. The results show an artificial sweep by the Trinamool Congress.

Dharmarajan A K, Thalassery

Education value

I am glad to hear that the Thrissur collector helped students complete their studies. When schools and colleges do not function, jails start to do so. Education is an essential part of one's life.

Prakash S, Srivilliputhur

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Himanta Biswa Sarma @himantabiswa
Every year, we receive water from Bhutan, Arunachal, and even from China. We experience pain and misery beyond human imagination, yet we do not blame others. Because nature does not recognise geography.

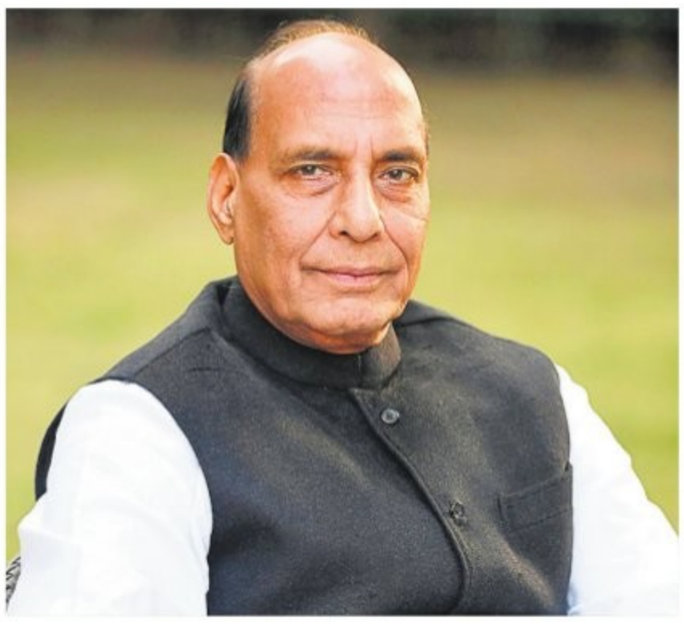
Mehbooba Mufti @MehboobaMufti
Himanta Biswa Sarma is openly inciting Hindus to forcibly take away the small means of livelihood of Muslims like selling vegetables and grocery shops.

Sitaram Yechury @SitaramYechury
To ensure equality, required reforms of personal and customary laws of all communities must be democratically undertaken involving all.

'Will win more seats in 2024 LS elections'

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh says voters' preferences in assembly and LS elections are different as issues vary

NAMITA BAJPAI @ New Delhi



THE immense popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi among the people will ensure a comfortable win for the BJP and allies in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, believes Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. In an interview with Namita Bajpai, he says people have confidence in the Central leadership and its style of functioning. He also expressed his views on a host of issues ranging from UCC, and Chinese misadventures on the border to Manipur crisis. Excerpts:

Om Prakash Rajbhar has returned to the NDA. Many other former allies of the BJP are said to be in talks with the party's leadership. Looks like the old NDA would be reconstituted.
Our NDA family will be stronger than ever. A lot of parties are willing to join our alliance. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's popularity is immense, and parties know that their future is secured within a strong alliance. He has established himself as a global leader and reaffirmed India's pride abroad.

What is your assessment of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections? Will it be tougher with the opposition trying its best to cobble up a united front against BJP?
My assessment is that we are going to win more seats than in the previous Lok Sabha elections of 2019.

Where are numbers going to come from? BJP has lost a couple of states recently and the ground situation has changed in many other states like Bihar.
In Karnataka, or for that matter Himachal Pradesh, we might have lost the Assembly elections, but in Lok Sabha polls, we are confident of getting more seats than in 2019. Our numbers are not going to reduce. Even during the Assembly polls in Karnataka, voters were clear that they would vote for the BJP in 2024 to bring the Modi government back.

In states like Bihar and Maharashtra, the numbers will be higher than in 2019. In fact, we may make a sweep in Bihar. People are quite confident of the central leadership and the way it is working. Look, the voting preferences in the Assembly and Lok Sabha elections are entirely different as the issues in both elections are different.

Modiji is emerging as a global figure, which is playing a big role in winning over people's support. This is what is making other political players think of joining the NDA. The ruling alliance is going to be stronger with the arrival of many more partners ahead of the big battle in 2024.

Is the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) going to be a nagging issue? Many of your current and prospective allies hold contrary views on the UCC?
The Central government is trying its best to build consensus over the UCC before proceeding with it. People will be taken into confidence before making any move in that direction. As of now, many people do not have a clear idea of the concept. When people get a clearer picture, I think there won't be much problem.

What's the situation on the China border? Rahul Gandhi keeps making Chinese aggression and encroachment of Indian territory big political issues.
This is uncalled for. It should not be the approach. His statements always seem to challenge our own Army. Recall the day when Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji had addressed the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi as 'Durga' after the 1971 war, which led to the formation of Bangladesh. During the confrontation with other countries, especially China, with which we have a long history of confrontation, the entire nation should stand united.

The fact is that we have got the support of the international community on the issue of Chinese misadventures on the border. Now, even China is expressing its willingness to resolve this dispute. It is because when a country gets strong globally, no one can dare browbeat it, and others are bound to listen to it.

Govt trying for consensus on UCC

The Centre is trying its best to build consensus over the Uniform Civil Code before proceeding with it. People will be taken into confidence before making any move in that direction. As of now, many people do not have a clear idea of the concept. When people get a clearer picture, I think there won't be much problem.

Is the prolonged crisis in Manipur giving a tough time to the government?
The government is making continuous efforts to resolve the crisis. The talks are on. The most significant aspect of it is that there should not be any communication gap. The government is treading cautiously. We had given instructions to the Army to practise restraint.

We have been hearing this for quite some time now. Is there really a Union Cabinet reshuffle on cards?
No discussion over the issue has taken place at our level.

What is the government's stand on MP Brijbhushan Sharan Singh? Is he being given a long rope?
The case is in the court and it will take its course.

As an MP, are you happy with the development of your constituency, Lucknow?
It's you who should tell me about this. The manufacturing of BrahMos missiles and the coming up of a textile park in Lucknow reflect the level of growth here. I never made any tall claims but have tried silently to effect a gradual makeover of the state capital. A lot of infrastructural facilities are on the anvil and they will be delivered in the days to come. The ambitious 104-km outer ring road is 90 per cent ready and should be dedicated to the people by next November.

I will never let the growth of Lucknow suffer due to paucity of funds. I may be busy with national responsibilities but will ensure that the development projects of my constituency are kept on the fast track.

Will you be contesting in 2024?
Hope so.

POWER GAMES

SHAHID FARIDI
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Tension Within

PMO DENIES EXTENSION TO GADKARI'S KEY MEN IN NHAI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi-headed Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has rejected a proposal sent by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for extending the tenure of its two top officials – Member (Technical) Mahabir Singh and Member (Projects) Manoj Kumar. They look after the critical aspects of the NHAI, India's largest road and bridge builder. Sources said Singh and Kumar are considered close to Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari. The NHAI, which functions under Gadkari's ministry, had sought a two-year extension for these officers. Mahabir Singh was appointed NHAI's Member (Technical) in July 2020 for three years. His term expires this month-end. Manoj Kumar's term has also come to an end. According to sources, the Prime Minister's Office was not happy with the performance of the two officers.

Pulling Apart

BJP'S RS PICK BRINGS FOCUS ON DIVISION OF BENGAL

The BJP leadership's choice of Ananta Rai Maharaj as its candidate to represent West Bengal in the Rajya Sabha has reignited the debate on the division of West Bengal and the formation of a separate state comprising some districts of north Bengal and Assam. Ananta Rai is a leader of Koch-Rajbanshis and has been a votary of a separate state of 'Greater Cooch Behar". Rai heads the Greater Cooch Behar People's Association, working to carve out a separate state from Bengal. The BJP-led Union government is also in talks with Jibon Singha, chief of the Kamtapur Liberation Organisation (KLO). KLO has been engaged in an armed struggle to create a separate state comprising north Bengal districts. Several BJP legislators from north Bengal have openly backed the demand for the division of Bengal. Union Minister of State for home affairs Nisith Pramanik, an MP from north Bengal, had earlier responded to a question about his government's plan to divide Bengal by saying, "decision will be taken keeping in mind the people's sentiments". Pramanik accompanied Rai when the latter filed his nomination in the West Bengal assembly. The chatter for a new state is getting louder.

Legislating for Lawmakers

CONG MAY CHANGE STAND ON INSTANT DISQUALIFICATION

Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud's comments last week that the courts cannot put a life ban on politicians who have been convicted and barred from contesting election has triggered discussion in the Congress on the disqualification issue. The CJI made the comment while hearing a petition on the period of disqualification filed in 2016. It was the Supreme Court's decision in the Lily Thomas Vs Union of India case in 2013 that resulted in the instant disqualification of MPs, MLAs and MLCs, who are convicted in a criminal case for two years or more.
The then Congress-led government had moved swiftly to overturn the Supreme Court's decision by bringing in an ordinance. But it was thwarted by Rahul Gandhi who tore the ordinance in a press conference calling it "complete nonsense". This forced the government not to pass a bill to turn the ordinance into law. The party's opinion on the issue has, however, changed over time, primarily as it feels that "the ruling BJP was using flimsy grounds to get lawmakers disqualified". Sources said Congress is now in sync with other opposition parties who plan to bring in laws to protect lawmakers from being targeted by the central government.

Navy veterans held in Qatar file mercy plea

> Since most of the veterans are above 60 years, their health has been adversely impacted by the trial. There is no clarity on the charges that have been levelled against them
>
> A source

Pardon twice a year

The Emir of Qatar typically issues pardons twice a year, during Ramadan and National Day. No official information regarding those released is usually disclosed, unless the pardon involve expats. The families of the Navy veterans say the Emir is known to be benevolent and they are hopeful of their plea being considered.

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

IT HAS been over ten-and-a-half months since the eight naval veterans were taken into custody by Qatar's interior ministry and with no clarity on when the trial will end, some members have filed a mercy petition to the Emir of Qatar to grant them pardon.

"Since most of the veterans are aged above 60 years, their health has been adversely impacted by the trial. There is no clarity on the charges that have been levelled against them. They are based on sections under the Qatari law, so little is known about how long the case would last. During the last hearing on June 21, two of the investigators were tried and the next hearing is on July 19. There is uncertainly on how long this trail will continue. It is for the same reason that some family members have filed a mercy petition and are pleading to the Emir to pardon the veterans," said a source.

The Emir typically issues pardons twice a year, during Ramadan and National Day. No official information regarding those released is usually disclosed, unless the pardons involve expats, in which case their consulates sometimes share information about the releases.

The families of the veterans say that the Emir of Qatar is known to be benevolent and they are hopeful of their plea being considered.

Meanwhile, families of the naval veterans are being allowed to meet them once a week and phone calls are also facilitated for those who have families back home and are not able to travel to Doha.

"Every time we spoke to our kin in Doha over the phone, he maintains that they have not done anything unlawful," said a family member of one of the veterans.

"The case is in what is called 'The Court of First Instance'. Four hearings have taken place. Our Embassy is closely following it. The full nature of the charges is not entirely clear. We are ensuring that our nationals are receiving required legal assistance. The family members continue to receive weekly phone calls and meetings. They are being updated with the proceedings of the case on a regular basis," said Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi recently.

When the tide turns in favour of these eight naval veterans and they are actually repatriated; only time will tell.

AUGUST 30, 2022

Eight naval veterans (Captain Navtej Singh Gill, Captain Birendra Kumar Verma, Captain Saurabh Vasisht, Commander Amit Nagpal, Commander Purnendu Tiwari, Commander Sugunakar Pakala, Commander Sanjeev Gupta and sailor Ragesh) are taken away from their homes in Doha by Qatar's Ministry of Interior for questioning. The naval veterans were working for an Omani firm based in Doha, Dhara. They never returned home and have been under detention ever since.

WAITING IN CONFINEMENT

OCTOBER 3, 2022

FIRST CONSULAR ACCESS WAS GRANTED

The CEO of the company an Omani Emir also came down to Doha to get his officials out but he was kept in solitary confinement too for two months after which he was released on bail

March 15, 2023: The last bail plea rejected. Month after month, applications were being submitted for bail, but they were getting rejected each time.

March 25, 2023: Charges were filed against the eight veterans and they are being tried under Qatari law

May 30, 2023: Dhara closed its operations in Doha and all those working there (primarily Indians) have since returned home

Four hearings have taken place since the legal trial began

JULY 19, 2023: DATE OF NEXT HEARING

Anti-narcotics units to set on fire drugs worth ₹2,416 crore today

AMIT MUKHERJEE @ New Delhi

INDIA will destroy over 1.4 lakh kilograms of drugs worth over ₹2,000 crore, seized by various enforcement and anti-drug agencies, on Monday. The drive is part of the country's zero tolerance policy towards narcotic substances and the government's resolve to not only curb drug smuggling but also disallow use of Indian territory for international drug trafficking.

According to sources in the Ministry of Home Affairs, the seized contraband will be destroyed during the regional conference on 'Drugs Smuggling and National Security' in New Delhi on Monday. The conference will be chaired by Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah.

During the conference, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), in coordination with Anti-Narcotics Task Forces (ANTF) of all states, will destroy 1,44,000 kg of drugs worth ₹2,416 crore in various parts of the country, said an MHA official.

The drugs to be destroyed will include 6,590 kg seized by NCB's Hyderabad unit, 822 kg by Indore unit and 356 kg by the Jammu unit. Along with this, various law enforcement agencies of different states will destroy a total of 1,44,122 kg of drugs, including 1,486 kg of drugs in Assam, 229 kg in Chandigarh, 25 kg in Goa, 4,277 kg in Gujarat, 2,458 kg in Haryana, 4,069 kg in Jammu and Kashmir, 1,03,884 kg in Madhya Pradesh, 159 kg in Maharashtra, 1,803 kg in Tripura and 4,049 kg in Uttar Pradesh.

The Central government has adopted a 'zero tolerance' policy against narcotics to create a drugs-free India. Over the last one year, between June 1, 2022 abd July 15, 2023, all regional units of NCB and ANTFs of states have collectively destroyed around 8,76,554 kg drugs worth around ₹9,580 crore, which is more than 11 times of the target.

With the destruction of drugs on Monday, the total quantity of drugs destroyed in one year will reach around 10 lakh kg, which has a value of around ₹12,000 crore.

Women in forces set out on bikes in memory of Kargil

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

A GROUP of 26 women associated with the three armed forces will participate in an over 900-km bike rally on the eve of Kargil Vijay Diwas.

The all-woman bike rally will begin from the National War Memorial (NWM) in Delhi on July 18 and culminate at the Kargil War Memorial in Drass on July 26.

The rally will be flagged off by Indian Army Chief General Manoj Pande and Army Wives' Welfare Association President Archana Pande.

The bike rally is being organised to commemorate the bravehearts who made their supreme sacrifice in protecting the sovereignty and integrity of the country during the 1999 Kargil conflict with Pakistani Army. "The rally is aimed at showcasing the bold and indomitable spirit of women through the women bikers, thereby contributing to the mission of 'Nari Sashaktikaran' at the national level," said an official.

Commemorating the grand victory

During Kargil conflict, 674 Indian soldiers made the supreme sacrifice and were awarded four Param Vir Chakras, 10 Maha Vir Chakras and 70 Vir Chakras, among others for gallantry. The IAF and Army operation was named Operation Safed Sagar. This year marks the 24th anniversary of that grand victory.

Among the 26 bikers, the participants include serving women officers and non-commissioned officers, spouses of serving and retired personnel and 'veer naris'. The widow of an armed forces' personnel, who has laid down his life for the nation, whether in war or in a military operation, is called a 'veer nari'.

There are two veer naris from the Indian Army, 14 serving officers, including 11 from Indian Army, two from Indian Air Force and one from Indian Navy. Besides, there are two non-commissioned officers.

Also, eight women who are either the spouses of serving or retired officers are also participating in the nine-day-long bike expedition. Two officers have been kept in reserve as well.

Beginning from NWM in Delhi, the bikers will be passing through the cities and towns of states like Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu and Kashmir to reach the destination in Ladakh.

The rally is being conducted under the aegis of HQ Northern Command.

Kargil Vijay Diwas has been named after the successful Kargil military campaign named Operation Vijay. On this day, India successfully reclaimed command of the high outposts that were treacherously occupied by Pakistani intruders during winter months.

The Kargil conflict was a three-month-long skirmish between India and Pakistan. It commenced in May 1999, when approximately 1,500 Pakistani soldiers intruded into the Indian Territory in Kargil of Jammu and Kashmir with an aim of severing the link between Kashmir and Ladakh.

Brave soldiers of the Indian Army had recaptured the dominating peaks after overcoming the seemingly insurmountable odds, hostile terrain and weather. By July 20, the Indian forces managed to recapture Kargil heights.

YATRA DEATH TOLL

The death toll in the ongoing Amarnath Yatra climbed to 27 on Sunday with two more deaths, while eight CRPF personnel on their way to offer prayers at the cave shrine were injured in a road accident in J&K's Ganderbal.

06 BOOKED FOR THRASHING THREE MEN IN MADHYA PRADESH

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	42	27	Mumbai	35	29
Bhopal	43	28	Panaji	32	28
Jaipur	41	30	Patna	41	27
Amritsar	40	23	Lucknow	42	27
Chennai	39	30	Port Blair	34	28
Kolkata	36	26	Imphal	23	18
Srinagar	18	08	Chandigarh	42	23

Chouhan starts month-long yatra from tribal regions

CM announces a series of schemes for irrigation from western MP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bhopal

WITH less than four months left for the next assembly elections, Madhya Pradesh chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan embarked on a month-long Vikas Parva (Development Festival) from the tribal dominated West MP's Dhar and Barwani district on Sunday.

The CM started the month-long festival by laying foundation of Minor Lift Irrigation project at Meghnad Ghat on the banks of river Narmada in Kukshi tehsil of Dhar district.

The ₹2,771-crore minor lift irrigation project, via underground pipeline system, will render irrigation facilities to more than 75,000 hectare land owned by 1.25 lakh-plus farmers in Dhar district. The project once completed will ensure irrigation facilities through sprinkler and drip systems under PM Narendra Modi's One Drop More Crop vision.

The CM subsequently unveiled two minor irrigation projects in Barwani district, including the ₹1,173 crore project in Nagalwadi and ₹55 crore project in Pati area of the west MP district. The twin micro irrigation projects will usher adequate micro irrigation facilities to hundreds of villages in Barwani and neighbouring Khargone district.

CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan on a roadshow in Barwani town on Sunday | EXPRESS

Chouhan later carried out an impressive roadshow in Barwani town of Barwani district. Addressing the public meetings in Dhar and Barwani districts, the CM accused the Congress of using abuses to address him. "The Congress people address me with a host of abuses, including Kans Mama and Shakuni Mama. Now-a-days they've got a video made which talks about Ka Ba Ka Ba," Chouhan said while referring to Bhojpuri singer Neha Singh Rathore's trending video targeting BJP rule in MP, which is being shared by the Congress leaders on social media platforms.

"It's because the Congress is unable to come to power due to me that its leaders are abusing me. Do my sisters here also think that I'm Kans or Shakuni Mama," Chouhan said.

Cong regime stopped funds: CM

On a month-long 'festival,' CM chouhan accused the erstwhile Kamal Nath-led 15-month Congress regime of stopping funds for various welfare schemes of his previous government, including the CM Kanya Vivah/Nikah Yojana, the Sambal Yojana and the scheme pertaining to distribution of laptops to meritorious students.

Nadda leads rally against Cong over graft, favouritism

RAJESH ASNANI @Jaipur

IN a powerful move amidst the election year, the national president of the BJP, JP Nadda lashed out at the Ashok Gehlot government in Rajasthan after launching the '*Nahi Sahega Rajasthan*' (Rajasthan will not tolerate it) campaign at Chandan Vatika in Bilwa near Jaipur on Sunday. Nadda took an aim at the UPA and claimed "UPA means government of Utpidan, Pakshpat aur Atyachar (oppression, favoritism and tyranny)."

Nadda said that in November Cong will be shown the way out. He criticised the Gehlot government, alleging it to be guilty of favouritism. Nadda highlighted Vasundhara government's swift response in establishing a fast track court during the Jaipur bomb blast case, comparing it with the Gehlot government's way of handling the release of involved terrorists.

Nadda said, "This is not the Gehlot government, it is a government that loots the house. It is a government that sends money to Delhi and kills the rights of the poor. This government has done the work of creating a record in corruption.," he said, adding, "We have to make Gehlot sit at home in November."

Nitish says no to BJP's move on Uniform Civil Code

RAMASHANKAR @Patna

BIHAR chief minister Nitish Kumar on Sunday made it clear that Uniform Civil Code (UCC) would not be enforced in the state at any cost. The issue has snowballed into a controversy following PM Narendra Modi's recent hints in Bhopal that UCC may be on the cards in next year's Lok Sabha election.

Nitish gave an assurance to a delegation of All India Muslim Personal Law Board to that effect during their meeting on Sunday. The delegation met Nitish at the Chief Minister's residence. State Building Construction Minister Ashok Chowdhary was also present on the occasion.

The delegation of All India Muslim Personal Law Board urged CM to initiate steps at his own level that UCC could not be implemented in the country too. The interests of the minorities should be taken care of, members of the delegation said at the meeting.

On this occasion, Nitish assured the delegation that he would make efforts in this direction. The chief minister said that he has his already made his opinion regarding UCC clear in the public from

the very beginning. He had written a letter to the Centre that UCC should not be implemented in 2017.

Significantly, the delegation comprised people from Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Bihar, including Hazrat Maulana Obaidullah Asadi Sub Sheikhul, Hajis Jamia Arabia Hathora, Banda (UP) and All India Muslim Personal Law Board member Hazrat Maulana Atiqur Rahman Bastavi.

Stating that political parties are trying to mislead Muslims, PM Modi strongly batted for equal rights and UCC enshrined in the Constitution. Modi also dropped a major hint that UCC may be on the cards in the upcoming Lok Sabha election. Toeing lines of Nitish, a senior JD(U) minister Ashok Choudhary had clarified that there was no need for UCC in Bihar.

RAIPUR DIARY

EJAZ KAISER
Our correspondent in Chhattisgarh
ejaz@newindianexpress.com

PCC chief's focus: coordination, Mission 23

Deepak Baij, 42, the Congress Lok Sabha member from Bastar, assumed the charge of new Chhattisgarh state president in Rajiv Bhawan on Saturday amid challenges to have a better coordination between the government and party organisation with barely 3 months remaining for the polls. Baij was welcomed by the Congressmen led by Pankaj Sharma and others on arrival in Raipur where his priority is 'Mission 2023', which is to ensure that Congress forms the government again. A close confidant of CM Bhupesh Baghel, he seems to be getting support as he has steadily climbed up the political ladder.

Last Assembly session likely to be stormy

The Monsoon session of Chhattisgarh House that begins today (Monday) and will continue till July 21, is likely to be stormy. It's the last session ahead of the Assembly polls and the BJP is set to bring a no-confidence motion against the Bhupesh Baghel government. MLAs have filed 550 questions for the session in which the government is likely to table supplementary budget besides half a dozen amendment bills. The opposition expressed unhappiness over the short duration of the session — four days — calling it as too short.

Chocolate range by women in rural areas

Rural India now has a growing chocolate base. Under the BALCO's Unnati project, trained rural women now have access to entrepreneurial avenues to pursue chocolate-making. The extensively prepared 'exotic' collection to the range of home-made chocolates with the addition of Blueberry and Cranberry chocolates are marketed under Project Unnati's UnChoc brand. It encompasses a variety of chocolates ranging from classic varieties such as dark chocolate, milk chocolate, and white chocolate, as well as nutty variations featuring almonds, cashews, raisins. "Balco fosters an environment where women can thrive," said CEO Rajesh Kumar.

Livid over wife's loss in polls, man kills his father allied with BJP

PRANAB MONDAL @Kolkata

DEADLY political rivalry within the family surfaced in a Malda village after a youth allegedly murdered his BJP activist father after his TMC candidate wife was defeated by a candidate of the saffron camp in the just-concluded panchayat polls.

The body of Buran Murmu (52) was found hanging from the ceiling in her room with multiple injury marks on the body and his son Biplab disappeared. Altercation between the father and son broke out after Biplab's wife Sharmila lost to a BJP candidate by 56 votes.

The police detained Sharmila for interrogation and are looking for Biplab. "Sharmila's paternal family has been loyal to the TMC. The trouble in the family broke after she was selected as a TMC candidate. Buran was an active BJP worker and he could not accept that his daughter-in-law would represent a rival party. After Sharmila's defeat, Biplab held his father responsible alleging that Buran campaigned against Sharmila asking their neighbours not to vote for her," a cop said.

Baghel govt advances C'garh games to July 17 in view of Assembly polls

EJAZ KAISER @Raipur

THE overwhelming response witnessed during the first ever 'Chhattisgarhiya Olympics' sports event organised last year enthused the state government to prepone the traditional games contest, which is to commence from today.

Spearheaded by chief minister Bhupesh Baghel, the day of start of the two-month long Chhattisgarhiya Olympics 2023-24 in an election year coincides with the popular local festival 'Hareli Tihaar' (Hareli means greenery).

The sports department expects around 50 lakh participants during the event. The state has 1.95 crore electorates as per the updated list. Besides the recognition of certificates and medals, the total prize money to be distributed will be close to ₹10 crore.

The local Olympics event is divided into six phases in which the participants from all ages, from children to the elderly in both male and female segments are encouraged to join as competitors. The event has 16 traditional games, including both team and single categories. This year, rope jumping and wrestling are new additions under the single category.

The competitive games will run simultaneously in rural and urban areas. Three different age-groups have been earmarked for the players: upto 18 years, 18-40 years and above 40 years. The show will conclude on September 27, offering enough opportunities for the players to showcase their skills and compete further at a higher level.

There are series of competitions at various levels, starting right from primary level — Rajiv Yuva Mitan (Youth Friends') club using a knock-out format followed by zonal, block, district, divisional and finally the state level. Across the state there are 13,261 Mitan clubs where over 35.65 lakh to participate as players.

The event has been conceptualised to revive various traditional sports that gradually seems to be disappearing in almost every state.

Red alert issued again for 7 districts in U'khand, relief teams on high alert

NARENDRA SETHI @Dehradun

TORRENTIAL rains in Uttarakhand have forced the authorities to issue a red alert for seven districts of Dehradun, Tehri, Pauri, Haridwar, Champawat, Nainital and Udham Singh Nagar for July 17.

The State Meteorological Centre has also issued issued an orange alert across the state on July 18. A yellow alert of is already in force in all districts of the hill state for July 19.

Meteorological Department director Dr. Bikram Singh told this newspaper that the red alert warning includes the possibility of lightning with heavy rains and thunderstorms. Officers and departmental nodal officers of the Incident Response System of disaster management have been instructed to remain vigilant.

State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) Commandant Manikant Mishra said: "Additional forces of SDRF's water police have been deployed at sensitive waterlogged places so that rescue operations can be undertaken swiftly."

According to information received from the District Disaster Management Control Room Haridwar, the situation in rural areas remains stable due to halt in rains on Sunday.

A bridge built by Border Roads Organisation (BRO) collapsed in Malari near Joshimath on Sunday | EXPRESS

"The platform of the Graf Bridge on the Joshimath-Malari motorway has been damaged due to excessive water and debris in the Gruthi Ganga river, about 8 km from Malari to Sumna," Joshimath SDM Kumkum Joshi told this newspaper.

Public movement on the motor bridge remained restricted. Meanwhile, rescue and relief operations continued in flood-hit areas in Haridwar.

The National Disaster Response Force, State Disaster Response Force, Army and police are carrying out the operations in Roorkee, Bhagwanpur, Laksar and Haridwar tehsils, the officials said.

In these tehsils, 3,756 families have been affected in 71 villages. Of these families, 81 have been shifted to relief camps, they said. Five people have died in these areas due to the floods. Seven houses have been completely damaged and 201 suffered partial damage.

Over 9K crimes registered against Guj Dalits in 7 yrs

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
@Ahmedabad

THE murder of two Dalit brothers in Gujarat has taken on political overtones. As Dalit families protested, the Gujarat Police has constituted a Special Investigation Team to probe the incident. Two police sub-inspectors have been suspended since then.

This is not the first time atrocities against Dalits have been committed in Gujarat. As many as 9,178 cases of crime against Dalits were registered in seven years beginning in 2015, the Union government told Parliament citing a report by the National Crime Records Bureau.

The families of two Dalit brothers, who were allegedly killed by members of the Kathidarbar community in Samadhiyala village in Gujarat's Surendranagar district, protested outside the hospital. The claimed bodies after more than 40 hours last Friday but only the police agreed to provide police protection and as a fast-track trial in the case.

According to the NCRB data provided by the Government of India in the Lok Sabha at different times, 1,010 cases of atrocities against Dalits were registered in 2015, but conviction could be obtained only in 10 cases. In 2016, 1,322 crimes were reported, but only 22 were convicted.

The conviction rate in 2015 was only 3.2 percent, but it was 4.6 percent in 2016. This information was provided by the Government of India in the Lok Sabha on February 6, 2018. In 2017, 1,477 incidences of atrocities against Dalits were reported. Next year, 1,426 came to light. In 2019, the number of crimes against women is 1,416, and in 2020, the number was 1,326. The year 2021 saw 1,201 cases. The numbers were shared by the Government in the Lok Sabha on March 21, 2023.

According to Gujarat statistics for the last seven years, as many as 9,178 incidences of crime against Dalits were filed in the seven years beginning in 2015. Commenting on the issue, Gujarat Congress spokesperson Hiren Banker said, "The Gujarat government claims women's safety on one hand, but the government's own statistics show that incidents of rape of Dalit women in Gujarat have been increasing continuously for the last three years, Statistics show that the BJP government is treating Dalits worseningly."

In 2015, there were 25 cases of attempts to commit murder, 65 cases of rape, and 51 cases of atrocities against women; in 2016, there were 32 cases of attempts to commit murder, 70 cases of rape, and 75 cases of atrocities against women; and in 2017, there were 24 cases of attempted murder, 105 cases of rape, and 63 atrocities against women. In 2018, 25 attempts to commit murder, 92 rapes, and 77 atrocities against women, 31 attempts to commit murder, 107 rapes, and 82 crimes against women in 2019, and 27 attempts to commit murder, 116 rapes, and 69 crimes against women in 2020.

In 2021, there were 21 attempts to commit murder, 120 rapes, and 69 crimes against women. Thus, 185 cases of attempts to commit murder of Dalits, 675 cases of rape, and 476 cases of assault on Dalit women have been documented in seven years.

CASTE ATROCITIES

YEAR	GUJARAT	INDIA
2015	1,046	45,003
2016	1,322	40,801
2017	1,477	43,203
2018	1,426	42,793
2019	1,416	45,935
2020	1,326	50,291
2021	1,201	50,900
Total	9,214	31,8926

- As many as 9,178 cases of crime against Dalits were registered in seven years beginning in 2015, the Union government told Parliament
- In 2021, there were 21 attempts to commit murder, 120 rapes, and 69 crimes against women

Waterlogging persists in many areas of Delhi

ANUP VERMA @New Delhi

SITUATION in Delhi continued to be grim with many areas, including Rajghat, Pragati Maidan, ITO and Civil Lines, remaining waterlogged on Sunday after days of heavy rainfall.

However, in relief, the water level in Yamuna has come down to 205.9 metres down, still above the danger mark of 205.33 metres, but below the peak of 208 recorded on Thursday. The Navy managed to open one gate of the Yamuna barrage at ITO on Friday, with four of the 32 gates still jammed. The force began operations to open other jammed gates on Sunday morning.

After remaining shut for three days, the entry and exit gates of the Yamuna Bank metro station were opened on Sunday. However, with many areas still waterlogged and some more predicted by the weather office, the Delhi government announced that schools will remain closed for two more days in the affected areas.

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal visited relief camps and took stock of the situation. Kejriwal announced that special camps will be set up for those who have lost their Aadhaar cards and other important government documents amid the flood.

People from low-lying areas move to safer place as water from Yamuna inundated many areas of Delhi amid heavy monsoon rains | PARVEEN NEGI

Taking Twitter, the chief minister said, "Many very poor families living on the banks of Yamuna have suffered a lot. In some families, the entire household goods were washed away. Ten thousand rupees per family will be given as financial help," he said.

Kejriwal said efforts to pump water out from waterlogged roads are underway.

Fresh violence in Manipur, houses torched

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR
@Guwahati

AFTER a brief pause, violence erupted at two places in Manipur on Sunday. Local media reported miscreants torched some houses in an area on the border of Bishnupur and Churachandpur districts. Security forces were soon deployed to the area and the situation was brought under control.

Senior police officials have not commented on the incident. Local sources, however, said there could be casualties.

Later in the day, a gun battle erupted on the border of Imphal West and Kangpokpi districts. It is unclear if there are any casualties.

Meanwhile, the police arrested four persons in connection with the killing of a Naga woman, Lucy Marem, in the Imphal East district on Saturday evening.

Her murder is the first instance of a member of the Naga community—the third largest in Manipur—being targeted in the ongoing violence.

FIVE
killed, 13 injured as bus carrying tourists plunges into ravine in Gilgit Baltistan in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • SW: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	37	23	SNY	Los Angeles	31	19	LC
Colombo	30	27	LC	Melbourne	16	7	HR
Dhaka	32	27	SNY	Moscow	27	17	HR
Dubai	39	31	SNY	New York	32	23	LC
Houston	38	27	SNY	Singapore	31	27	SNY
Istanbul	30	22	SNY	Toronto	26	19	LC
London	23	13	LC	Washington	33	23	SNY

Russia has sufficient cluster munitions for tit-for-tat: Putin

Kremlin president also claims that Ukrainian counteroffensive had been unsuccessful

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin said in an interview published on Sunday that Russia has a "sufficient stockpile" of cluster munitions, and warned that Russia "reserves the right to take reciprocal action" if Ukraine uses the weapons.

In his first comments on the delivery of cluster munitions to Ukraine from the US, Putin said that Russia has not used cluster bombs in its war in Ukraine so far. "Until now, we have not done this, we have not used it, and we have not had such a need," he said.

He added Russia had not yet used the weapons despite a "certain shortage of munitions at some point." *Rossiya TV* reporter Pavel Zarubin published excerpts of the interview to his Telegram channel on Sunday ahead of broadcast on Sunday night. The Pentagon said on Thursday that cluster munitions provided by the United States had arrived in Ukraine.

Meanwhile, Ukraine on Sunday said fighting had "intensified" on the eastern front as Putin deemed Kyiv's counteroffensive a failure.

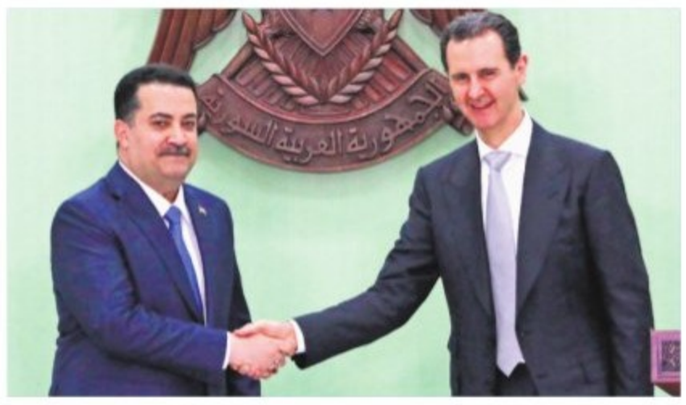
"The situation has somewhat intensified in the east," Ukrainian Deputy Defence Minister Ganna Malyar said.

Malyar described Ukrainian forces on the defensive near the eastern city of Kupiansk, but making some advances near Bakhmut. "For two days in a row, the enemy has been actively attacking in the Kupiansk sector in the Kharkiv region. We are on the defence," Malyar wrote on Telegram.

Putin claimed that the Ukrainian counteroffensive had been futile, in another excerpt published by Pavel Zarubin. "All attempts by the enemy to break through our defences (...) they were unsuccessful during the entire offensive. The enemy is having no success!" Putin said.

The Ukrainian military said in a regular update on Sunday morning that over the previous 24 hours, Russia had launched two Iranian-made Shahed exploding drones, two cruise missiles and two anti-aircraft guided missiles, in addition to 40 airstrikes and 46 attacks from multiple rocket launchers. *Agencies*

Russian rockets are launched against Ukraine from Russia's Belgorod region, seen from Kharkiv, Ukraine on Sunday | AP


Syria's President Bashar al-Assad (R) shakes the hand of Iraq's PM Mohammed Shia al-Sudani ahead of a press conference in Damascus, Syria on Sunday | AFP

Talks on refugees, water shortages as Iraqi PM visits Syria

DAMASCUS

IRAQ'S PM held talks on Sunday with Syrian President Bashar Assad in Damascus during the first trip of its kind to the war-torn country since the 12-year conflict began.

The two leaders told reporters that they discussed fighting drugs, the return of Syrian refugees and the imperative of lifting Western sanctions imposed in Syria. They also talked about Israel's strikes on the war-torn country and water shortages in the Euphrates River that cuts through both countries because of projects in Turkey.

Assad referred to Turkey without naming it as being behind the "theft" of Iraq and Syria's shares in the Eurphrates River in what is affecting agriculture in both countries. Assad also said that they discussed cooperating on fighting drugs, a scourge he said is "no different from terrorism as it can destroy the society the way terrorism does."

Assad received Mohammed Shia al-Sudani, who was heading a high-ranking delegation, at the presidential palace in Damascus. They discussed mutual relations and cooperation between the two neighbouring countries among other issues, according to the office of Syria's president.

Al-Sudani's office said in a statement that talks revolved around ways of expanding cooperation in the fields of trade, economy, transportation, tourism, how to combat climate change and collaboration to fight terrorism.

Security cooperation against extremist groups was likely to top the agenda for the two-day visit.

The Iraqi prime minister said countries around the world that have citizens in Syria's al-Hol camp, home to tens of thousands of mostly women and children linked to IS, should start working on repatriating them as Baghdad is doing. *AP*

> **We are interested in working through official channels to solve the issue of refugees and guarantee a safe return for them as soon as the situation becomes stable in places where they reside**
>
> Mohammed Shia al-Sudani, Iraq PM

Rains leave 37 dead in South Korea, 9 bodies pulled from flooded road tunnel

SEOUL

SOUTH Korean rescuers on Sunday pulled nine bodies from a flooded tunnel where around 15 vehicles were trapped in muddy water, as days of heavy rain triggered flash floods and landslides and destroyed homes, officials said.

A total of 37 people have died and thousands have been evacuated since July 9, when heavy rain started pounding South Korea's central regions.

Nearly 900 rescuers including divers were searching the tunnel in the central city of Cheongju, where the vehicles, including a bus, were swamped by a flash flood Saturday evening, Seo Jeong-il, chief of city's fire department, said.

Fire officials estimated that the tunnel filled with water in as little as two or three minutes. Photos and video from the scene showed rescue workers establishing a perimetre and pumping brown water out of the tunnel as divers used rubber boats to move in and out of the area.

Yang Chan-mo, an official from the North Chungcheong provincial fire department, said it could take several hours to pump out all the water from the tunnel, which was still filled with 4 to 5 metres of water dense with mud and other debris. Workers were proceeding slowly to prevent any victims or survivors from being swept out, Yang said.

Nine survivors were rescued from the tunnel and around 10 others were believed to be missing based on reports by families or others, but the exact number of passengers trapped in vehicles wasn't clear.

The Korea Meteorological Administration said the central and southern parts of the country could still get as much as 30 centimetres of additional rain through Tuesday. *AP*

Rescuers search for survivors along a road submerged by floodwaters leading to an underground tunnel in Cheongju, South Korea on Sunday | AP

7.2 quake hits Alaskan coast, triggers brief tsunami threat

WASHINGTON

A 7.2 magnitude earthquake triggered a brief tsunami advisory for southern Alaska late Saturday, but the advisory was cancelled about an hour later, monitoring bodies reported.

The earthquake was felt widely throughout the Aleutian Islands, the Alaskan Peninsula and Cook Inlet regions, according to the Alaska Earthquake Center.

In Kodiak, Alaska, sirens warned of a possible tsunami and sent people driving to shelters late at night, according to video posted to social media.

The United States Geological Survey wrote in a social media post that the earthquake occurred 106 kilometres south of Sand Point, Alaska, at 10.48 pm on Saturday.

The quake initially was reported as 7.4 magnitude but downgraded to 7.2 soon after.

The US National Weather Service sent a tsunami advisory saying the quake occurred at a depth of 21 kilometres.

The agency cancelled the advisory about an hour after the first alert.

Before the cancellation, the National Weather Service in Anchorage, Alaska, tweeted that the tsunami advisory applied to coastal Alaska from Chignik Bay to Unimak Pass, but Kodiak Island and the Kenai Peninsula were not expected to be impacted.

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency said shortly after the tsunami warning went out that there was no threat to the islands.

There were an estimated eight aftershocks in the same area of Alaska, including one measuring 5.0 magnitude within three minutes of the original earthquake, *KTUU-TV* reported. *AP*

150-year-old Hindu temple razed in Pakistan

KARACHI

A Hindu temple, believed to be built nearly 150 years ago, has been demolished after being declared an old and dangerous structure in Karachi.

The Mari Mata Temple in Karachi's Soldier Bazar was razed to the ground by bulldozers in the presence of a heavy contingent of police force late on Friday night.

"They (authorities) did it very early in the morning and we were not informed this was going to happen," said Ram Nath Mishra Maharaj, who looks after old Hindu temples in the area.

Mishra, the caretaker of the nearby Shri Punch Mukhi Hanuman Mandir, said that the bulldozers left the outer walls and the temple's main gate intact, but they demolished the entire inside structure. Mishra said that the temple, which covered some 400 to 500 square yards in the area, had been the target of land grabbers and developers for years now.

A senior police official of the local police station said that the temple was demolished as it had been declared a dangerous structure by authorities. He said the temple was run by the Madrasi Hindu community of Karachi which had agreed the structure was very old and dangerous.

The temple management reluctantly but temporarily moved most of the deities to a small room until they could carry out some renovation work there, he added. *PTI*

EXPRESS READ

Actor Jane Birkin dies in Paris at the age of 76

Paris: Actor and singer Jane Birkin, who charmed France with her English grace, natural style and social activism, has died at age 76. The London-born fashion icon was known for her musical and romantic relationship with French singer Serge Gainsbourg. Birkin was also celebrated for her political activism and campaigning for Amnesty International, Myanmar's pro-democracy movement, the fight against AIDS and other causes.

UK defence secretary to quit at next govt reshuffle

Ben Wallace

LONDON

UK Defence Secretary Ben Wallace said in an interview published on Saturday that he will step down at the next cabinet reshuffle and not contest the next general election.

Wallace, 53, has been a leading figure in Western allies' support for Ukraine against Russia and was the UK's pick to succeed Jens Stoltenberg as NATO secretary general.

"I'm not standing (as a member of parliament) next time," he was quoted as telling the *Sunday Times*.

The newspaper said Wallace told PM Rishi Sunak last month of his plans not to seek re-election at the general election, which has to be held by the end of next year.

He said he will not quit "prematurely" as an MP and force a by-election but will resign as defence secretary before the next cabinet reshuffle, which is expected before September, the weekly added.

The decision was not because he thought the Tories would lose but because his constituency in northwest England was being scrapped under boundary changes, he said.

Wallace has served as defence minister under three British prime ministers, Boris Johnson, Liz Truss and Rishi Sunak, and has played a high-profile role in the UK's response to the Russia-Ukraine war conflict.

"I went into politics in the Scottish parliament in 1999. That's 24 years. I've spent well over seven years with three phones by my bed," Wallace told the newspaper. "While I am proud to have worked with so many amazing people and helped contribute to protecting this great country, the cost of putting that ahead of my family is something I am very sad about," he said. *Agencies*

Government of Madhya Pradesh
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
Jal Sansadhan Bhawan, Tulsi Nagar, Bhopal (M.P.)
Email Id: ceproc.encwrd.bpl@nic.in Tel: 0755-2767635 Fax: 0755-2552406

N.I.T. No. 1010/2023-24/E-in-C/e-tendering — Bhopal, Dated 10.07.2023

Bids for following works are invited on website https://www.mptenders.gov.in Last Date of purchase/ download of Bid Document and submission of bid is 04.08.2023, 17:30 hrs. Any amendment/modification can be seen only on the website. Detailed N.I.T and other details can be viewed on above mentioned website.

S. No	Tender No.	Work	District	Amount (Lakhs)
1	2023-WRD-290350	On Turnkey Basis: Construction of Deharipal Tank (without Canal), Sajod weir and Gagorani Barrage (with Gates), as per detailed scope of work but not limited to that.	Shajapur	2439.71
2	2023-WRD-290351	Curtain grouting work in gallary of Bansujara Dam with 120 months for maintenance period.	Datia	2909.40

G 16625/23 — Chief Engineer (Procurement)

RELIANCE COMMERCIAL FINANCE LIMITED
Branch Office: Reliance Home Finance Limited NO 39,FFK TOWER,30TH CROSS,TILAK NAGAR, JAYANAGAR, BANGALORE 5600413 Registered Office: - Reliance Home Finance Limited, Ruby Tower, 11th Floor, North West Wing, Plot No.29, J.K.Sawant Marg, Dadar, Mumbai-400028

POSSESSION NOTICE
(As per Rule 8(2) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

Whereas pursuant to the approved resolution plan of the **Reliance Home Finance Limited.** (RHFL)by its Lenders in terms of RBI Circular No. RBI/2018-19/ 203, DBR.No. BP. BC. 45/21.04. 048/2018-19 dated 7th June, 2019 on Prudential Framework for Resolution of Stressed Assets, the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated March 3, 2023 and the Special Resolution passed by the Shareholders on March 25, 2023, RHFL has entered into the agreement to transfer its Business by way of a slump sale on a going concern basis, to Reliance Commercial Finance Limited (RCFL). And whereas all the rights and liabilities pertaining to the loan account (s) of the Borrower has/have also been transferred to RCFL. Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Reliance Commercial Finance Ltd. under the Securitization, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued Demand Notices upon the Borrowers/Co-borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower/Co-borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower\Co-borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The Borrower/Co-borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Reliance Commercial Finance Ltd.**

1. Name of Borrower/Co-borrower / Address: 1) SHAKUMBRI ENTERPRISES PRIVATE LIMITED **Having Address At:-** 85, Jyotish Roy Rd Fl 1 New Alipore Kolkata – 700053 **Also At:-** 99/5/9a, Ballygunge Place, Kolkata-700019 **2) GREENBILT CASTINGS PRIVATE 3) ADITYA AGARWAL, 4) BHAIRAVI AGARWAL 5) NITESH JAIN** **Having Address At:-** Site Nos. 248 To 252, 254,256, 257,261,262 And 265 To 270, Samruddhi Enclave, Sy No.20/2 Chikkanahalli,Vill Kamanahali Bangalore – 560084

Date of Demand Notices/ Publication	Date of Possession	Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)
03.01.2019	12.07.2023	**Rs.1,33,36,193/-** (One Crore Thirty Three Lac Thirty Six Thousand One Hundred Ninety Three Only) **As On 03rd January,2019**

Description of Property: All that piece and parcel of the Residentially converted Undeveloped Land bearing Sy. No.20/2, measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village, SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, (Converted as per Official Memorandum, dated 15/02/2013 vide No. ALN (AS) SR 356/2012-13) and bounded on: **East by:** Land bearing Sy. No. 21; **West by:** Land bearing Sy. No. 20/1; **North By:** Land Bearing Sy. No. 19; and **South by:** Land bearing Sy. No. 21

"A" SCHEDULE PROPERTY **ITEM No. 1:** All that piece and parcel of vacant Plot/Site bearing No.248, Having Katha No. 1944/1944/248 and presently New Khatha No.1944/248, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621350 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, Dated 11-02/201, formed in the Land in Sy. No. 20/2, measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, measuring **East to West by:** 54.63 Feet (16.65 Meter) and **North to South by:** 30 Feet (9.14 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 1639" Square Feet (152.46 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Site No. 242; **West by:** Road; **North By:** Site No. 249 ; and **South by:** Site No. 247

ITEM No.2: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 249, having Katha No.1945/1945/249 and presently New Khatha No. 1945/249, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621351 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring **East to West by:** 54.03 Feet (16.65 Meter) and North to South by : 30 Feet (9.14 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 1621" Square Feet (150.79 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Site No. 241; **West by:** Road ; **North By:** Site No. 250 ; and **South by:** Site No. 248

ITEM No.3: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 250, having Katha No.1946/1946/250 and presently New Khatha No. 1946/250, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621352 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring **East to West by:** 53.53 Feet (16.32 Meter) and North to **South by:** 30 Feet (9.14 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 1606" Square Feet (149.39 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Site Nos.240 & 241; **West by:** Road ; **North By:** Site No. 251 ; and **South by:** Site No. 249

ITEM No.4: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 251, having Katha No.1947/1947/251 and presently New Khatha No. 1947/251, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621355 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 53.04 Feet (16.28 Meter) and North to South by : 30 Feet (9.14 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 1591" Square Feet (148 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East By:** Site Nos.239 & 240; **West By:** Road ; **North By:** Site No. 252 ; and **South by:** Site No. 250

ITEM No.5: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 252, having Katha No.1948/1948/252 and presently New Khatha No. 1948/252, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621356 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 52.65 Feet (16.05 Meter) and North to South by : 30 Feet (9.14 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 1580" Square Feet (146.97 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Site No. 239 ; **West by:** Road; **North By:** Site No. 253 ; and **South by:** Site No. 251.

ITEM No.6: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 254, having Katha No.1950/1950/254 and presently New Khatha No. 1950/254, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621357 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 47.87 Feet (14.59 Meter) and North to South by : 30 Feet (9.14 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 1436" Square Feet (133.587 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Site Nos. 237 & 238; **West by:** Road; **North By:** Site No. 255 ; and South by : Site No. 253

ITEM No.7: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 256, having Katha No.1952/1952/256 and presently New Khatha No. 1952/256, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621358 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 63.47 Feet (19.35 Meter) and North to South by : 30 Feet (9.14 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 1904" Square Feet (177.007 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Road; **West by:** Sy No. 20/1 ; **North By:** Site Nos. 01 & 02 ; and South by: Site No. 257

ITEM No.8: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 257, having Katha No.1953/1953/257 and presently New Khatha No. 1953/257, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621359 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 70 Feet (21.34 Meter) and North to South by : 30 Feet (9.14 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 2100" Square Feet (195.34 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East By:** Road; **West By:** Sy No. 20/1 ; **North By:** Site Nos. 256 ; and **South by:** Site No. 258

ITEM No.9: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 261, having Katha No.1957/1957/261 and presently New Khatha No. 1957/261, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621360 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 60 Feet (18.29 Meter) and North to South by : 40 Feet (12.19 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 2400" Square Feet (223.25 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Road; **West by:** Sy No. 20/1; **North By:** Site Nos. 260 ; and **South by:** Site No. 262

ITEM No.10: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 262, having Katha No.1958/1958/262 and presently New Khatha No. 1958/262, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621361 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 60 Feet (18.29 Meter) and North to South by : 40 Feet (12.19 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 2400" Square Feet (223.25 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Road; **West by:** Sy No. 20/1 ; **North By:** Site Nos. 261 ; and **South by:** Site No. 263

ITEM No.11 : All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 265, having Katha No.1962/1962/265 and presently New Khatha No. 1962/265, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621362 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 60 Feet (18.29 Meter) and North to South by : 40 Feet (12.19 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 2400" Square Feet (223.25 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Road; **West by:** Sy No. 20/1 ; **North By:** Park & 3 Meter Path way ; and **South by:** Site No. 266

ITEM No.12: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 266, having Katha No.1963/1963/266 and presently New Khatha No. 1963/266, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621363 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 60 Feet (18.29 Meter) and North to South by : 40 Feet (12.19 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 2400" Square Feet (223.25 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Road; **West by:** Sy No. 20/1; **North By:** Site No.265 ; and **South by:** Site No. 267

ITEM No.13: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 267, having Katha No.1964/1964/267 and presently New Khatha No. 1964/267, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621364 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 60 Feet (18.29 Meter) and North to South by : 40 Feet (12.19 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 2400" Square Feet (223.25 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Road; **West by:** Sy No. 20/1 ; **North By:** Site No.266 ; and **South by:** Site No. 268

ITEM No.14: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 268, having Katha No.1965/1965/268 and presently New Khatha No. 1965/268, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621365 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 60 Feet (18.29 Meter) and North to South by : 24.76 Feet (7.54 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 1486" Square Feet (138.23 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Road; **West by:** Sy No. 20/1; **North By:** Site No.267 ; and **South by:** Private Property

ITEM No.15: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 269, having Katha No.1966/1966/269 and presently New Khatha No. 1966/269, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621366 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 40 Feet (12.19 Meter) and North to South by : 20.62 Feet (6.28 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 825" Square Feet (76.74 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Park & 3 Meter Path way; **West by:** Road ; **North By:** Site No.270 ; and **South by:** Private Property.

ITEM No.16: All that piece and parcel of Vacant Plot/Site Bearing No. 270, having Katha No.1967/1967/270 and presently New Khatha No. 1967/270, 'E' Khatha No.150200102201621367 of MuguluruGrama Panchayat Converted Land in ALN (AS) SR/356/2012-13, dated 15/02/2014 and BMRD Approved Plan bearing No. APA/LAO/22/09-10, dated 11/02/2014, formed in the Land in Sy No. 20/2, Measuring 2 Acres 06 Guntas, situated at Chikkanahalli-Kamanahalli Village SarjapurHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District measuring East to West by : 40 Feet (12.19 Meter) and North to South by : 30 Feet (9.14 Metter) In all Measuring "Odd 1200" Square Feet (111.62 Sq. Meter) and bounded on **East by:** Park & 3 Meter Path way; **West by:** Road ; **North By:** Site No.271 ; and **South by** Site No. 269.

Dated: 13.07.2023 — **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: BANGALORE & KOLKATA — **Reliance Commercial Finance Ltd.**

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₹30,600 cr have been invested by foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) into the Indian equity market in the first fortnight of this month.

Things to remember for professionals while filing I-T returns

If one is earning professional income, she needs to file ITR Form 3, and ITR 4 in case if she opts for the presumptive taxation

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi

IF somebody is working as a consultant or a freelancer, then she should take care of a few points as the process of income tax return filing (ITR) applied to them is slightly different from those of salaried employees.

First, they need to file ITR Form 3 if they are earning professional income, however, in case they are opting for the presumptive taxation scheme, then they will have to file ITR 4. Under ITR 3, one has to make a profit and loss statement along with a balance sheet.

According to tax experts, it is important that the taxpayers file the right ITR form, else it will be considered as a defective or an invalid return.

"Consultants cannot file ITR 4 (Sugam) in certain cases such as where their income exceeds ₹50 lakh or have any brought forward or carry forward loss, etc. In such instances, they will have to file ITR form3," said chartered accountant (CA) Rohit Vishnoi, partner with RPMG and Associates.

The last date of filing ITR for consultants is 31 July for FY23 but if they are subjected to tax audit under section 44AB, then the last date for filing ITR is 31 October 2023. Also, consultants who are subjected to tax audit, they would need to furnish the tax audit report by 30 September 2023.

Presumptive taxation scheme for consultants

Consultants have the option to go for the presumptive scheme as per the section 44 ADA of the Income Tax Act. This section is applicable for professionals engaged in legal, medical, engineering or architectural professions, profession of accountancy, technical consultancy, interior decoration or any other profession as notified by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) under the Ministry of Finance.

"It is important to note that the professionals who have income exceeding ₹50 lakh per annum cannot avail the benefit of presumptive scheme. Under this scheme, professionals can treat 50% of the total gross receipts as business income and income tax will be calculated on this income," Vishnoi said. In addition, no other deductions related to business income can be availed when opting for the presumptive scheme, he added.

The other important point to keep in mind is that unlike salaried individuals who can switch between the two tax regimes as per their wish, consultants and professionals cannot do the same.

"Once they have chosen the new tax regime, they can switch back to the old tax regime only once in their lifetime. Once switched back to the old tax system, they cannot opt for the new tax regime," said Vivek Jalan, partner, Tax Connect Advisory, a multi-disciplinary tax consultancy firm.

According to chartered accountant Chetan Daga, one could opt for the new tax regime in any year up to FY23. But from FY24, the new tax regime will be the default regime. They can opt out of the new tax regime in any year but cannot opt in again.

As per experts, tax slab rates are same for the consultants and freelancers as applicable to the salaried individuals. They cannot claim standard deduction of ₹50,000 as it is applicable only for salaried employees. However, they can get other deductions under chapter VI A of the income tax act like 80C, 80D, 80 E etc.

Keep documents handy

Consultants should keep all the documents handy such as bank accounts, financial details like assets, bank balances, loans and advances, capital gains, details of gross receipts and expenses etc..

"Taxpayers should maintain the record of all the receipts and payments done through bank accounts. In case, the tax department sends the tax notice then the taxpayers will have to present bank statements to provide as evidence to the tax officials," said Vishnoi.

In addition, Form 26AS is a dynamic form it keeps on updating as per the returns filed by various regulators. Sometimes, there is a difference between 26AS and bank statements.

For example, a consultant gets ₹10 lakh as fee but it is showing only ₹8 lakh in form 26AS, then this should be addressed before ITR filing. In case, it is not resolved, then the return will become defective or invalid and the taxpayer won't get the refund of tax showing in form 26AS.

"Besides this, nowadays, most of the people are dealing in stocks, shares and virtual digital assets. So they have to keep in mind the income earned through these sources while filing ITR and they should ensure proper disclosure of income earned through these sources in their ITRs," Vishnoi added.

Important tips for consultants

- Consultants cannot file ITR-4 (Sugam) in certain cases where their income exceeds **₹50 lakh**
- The last date of filing ITR for consultants is July **31 for FY 23**
- In case if they are subject to tax audit under section 44AB, then the last date for filing ITR is **October 31, 2023**
- Tax slab rates are same for the consultants and freelancers as applicable to the salaried individuals

UP TO FY 2022-23

They can opt for a new tax regime in any year. Once they opt in, they can opt out in any year. But once they opt out, they cannot opt again for any year

FROM FY 2023-24

New Tax regime will be the default regime. They can opt out of New Tax Regime in any year but cannot opt in again

MONEY MATTERS

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

WHY ACTIVE AND PASSIVE INVESTING NEEDS LEARNING

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

GOVERNMENTS of large and small countries invest in intelligence. They want to keep track of national interests through that. There are early warning systems in any form of disaster management. That way, you get a lead time to save lives. If you observe animal behaviour closely, you will find that animals that hunt do a recce of their target much before executing an attack. All of the above are not one-off exercises. They are life-long tactics used to thrive.

Investing is also all about learning. You need to learn about developments that influence your money and investments constantly. Whether you are interested in finance or not, you have to be either an active investor or a passive investor.

Active investing

You must invest much more in knowledge if you are an active investor. The intelligence you gather about your target investment before putting your money on the line is essential. The more you know, the better. Similarly, to protect your investments, you need to track developments that could trigger a risk to your money.

For example, you must protect your investment portfolio against market cycles that see an upturn and a downturn. In a situation of an upturn, you should constantly know about opportunities that still have steam. Benchmark indices like the NSE Nifty and the S&P BSE Sensex are currently at an all-time high. You need to know about the quality companies trading at a relatively lower valuation than the overall market. It is not accessible if you want to do it all yourself. You need professional help to get the timing right. Some individuals are experts in letting you know when to buy or sell companies. You may also want to explore fintech, which crushes data and throws up reasonably valued companies for you to pick in the stock market. Those into day trading already use technical tools for looking at resistances, bottoms, and stop-losses.

Active trading requires you to be on the ball. You cannot take your eyes off the macro and the micro view. That involves simultaneously looking at the big picture and the fine print to make a knowledge-centric investment decision.

Passive investing

You can be a passive investor if you think the above is not for you. You got to put your money to work, no matter what. Your savings need the right direction. Passive investing is relatively less risky than active investing. In legendary American investor Warren Buffett's language, you will learn to get rich slowly. Investing regularly through systematic investment plans of mutual funds is the best way to create wealth without diving deeper into finance.

Even simpler is regular investing in index funds. That is called index investing. You must identify the suitable indices combination to put your life savings. While you can focus on the big picture information only and need not deep dive, you must still work with a professional advisor. You cannot just leave everything for your professional advisor to figure out. You must engage with the advisor to get the most out of your relationship. Knowing broadly where your money is going and how it is invested is a good idea.

If you speak to professionals, they are most likely to recommend a combination of active and passive investing for sustained wealth creation. One such method is to identify fundamentally solid companies that ride on India's economic growth and invest them each month just like you would through a mutual fund.

You would benefit from the rupee-cost averaging as share prices move in cycles. There is a school of thought that recommends holding a core stock portfolio. You can generate a passive income through dividend payments if you invest steadily in these companies over your work life. Determine how much you should invest and where you must get professional help. In today's world of intelligent technology and awareness, you cannot hide behind ignorance.

MONEY-WISE

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM

writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹40 a day'

DO YOU NEED A FINANCIAL PLANNER?

FINANCIAL planning is not a perfect science. At best it is like a Google Map – a very good indicator of the route to take, and the time estimate required to reach there.

However, Google does not know if you will stick to the map or go away on a different road, stop for a long time for food, sleep, etc.

For people who are not obsessed about large cap, small cap, midcap, goal setting, asset allocation and such things, it is as painful an experience as visiting the dentist.

Also when an investor meets a financial planner (potential), for the first time, and the two of them are in completely different zones? If the client is from Venus and the planner is from Mars what exactly happens between them?

Planner: Where do you work and how much do you earn?

C: About ₹50 lakh is the gross salary between my wife and me, and our take home is ₹2 lakh and ₹1 lakh, respectively.

Now the Planner, who has an income of ₹8 lakh a year, thinks that the client should spend ₹1 lakh pm and save ₹2 lakh pm…and that ₹1 lakh should include the EMI.

Client thinks he should spend ₹2 lakh pm including EMI, the ₹1 lakh should be used for vacations, and anyway Provident Fund is for retirement!!

Financial Planners make life sound like there is nothing to do except to make plans, do Systematic Investment Plans, write a will…and then review it once a month at least. Switch once in a year…..phew exhausting is it not?

At the end it is like going to a dentist who says –

a) you have not been brushing regularly,

b) when did you last floss your teeth

c) even scaling you have delayed it by a month or two

d) 2 more of your teeth need to be removed, and we need to put an implant.

Sorry, that will cost ₹94,000.

How many of us will like that experience (not me, my dentist is a good singer and she even sings for me when she is removing my tooth!!). Financial planning is of course worse.

It has math. And the planner asks "do you know how much investing ₹40 a day will become if you invest for 30 years..no no make it 35.." and just when the client is recovering…he says 4,54,65,425! Wow.

The client is feeling worse. OMG I wasted 18 years of my life not knowing this.

He is then shown how he needs ₹3 crore for his daughter's education in India, ₹8 crore for her to study abroad, ₹6 crore for her marriage and ₹28 crore for his retirement. Assuming that he has only one kid. OH, another is on its way? Just double all the numbers.

Financial planning is good for you. However, the process through which a planner can put you through is not so great!

What happens when you do not go to a financial planner? Well, you need to do it yourself of course.

You need to have the discipline to learn about investing, keeping records, do asset allocation, know when to remove from equities, and when to invest in equities,…etc. etc. That is not really easy.

Take your option – which way do you want to go?

NCLAT stays insolvency proceedings against govt-owned Concor

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

GOVERNMENT-owned Container Corporation India Ltd (Concor) has got a relief from the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) after the tribunal stayed an NCLT order allowing initiation of a corporate insolvency resolution process against the company.

Concor informed in an exchange filing that the NCLAT has stayed the operation of the final order and judgment dated 12 July 2023 issued by NCLT and directed the matter to be listed for further hearing on 4 September 2023.

The container and logistics firm – Concor -- is facing insolvency procedures after one of its vendors moved an insolvency plea against the company for not paying a sum of ₹ 87.5 crore. The amount involved is an arbitral award that the vendor -- Roadwings International – won in an arbitration court. However, Concor has moved Delhi High Court against the arbitral award. Concor had earlier said that the NCLT admitted the insolvency application for seeking the amount awarded by an arbitral tribunal despite the fact that the said arbitral award was pending challenge from the company before the Delhi High Court.

The government of India holds 54.8% stake in Concor, and it is looking to divest 30% stake in the company. The insolvency case against Concor could further delay the government's efforts to sell part of its stake in the company. Concor is a listed company and its shares are trading around ₹ 690 a piece. At the current market price, the government will be hoping to realise ₹12,000 crore from sale of 30% stake in the company.

Sitharaman for strengthening global architecture to fight financial crimes

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

INDIA has taken the lead for building capacity in tax and financial crime investigation in the South Asian region in collaboration with OECD, said Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

Speaking at 'G20 High-Level Tax Symposium on Combating Tax Evasion, Corruption and Money Laundering', she said G20 will continue to assist the jurisdictions in enhancing their law enforcement capacity.

India has decided to launch a pilot on tax and financial crime investigation in collaboration with OECD for the South Asian Region beginning at the Regional Campus of National Academy of Direct Taxes in New Delhi on July 18.

"We hope that the G20 continues exploring the options to further strengthen the global architecture to fight financial crime and assist jurisdictions in enhancing their law enforcement capacity," she said.

The G20 has helped spearhead a number of reforms to the global tax, anti-corruption and anti-money laundering architecture, which has helped shape the discourse towards jurisdictions not only adopting a more holistic approach to financial crimes, but also aided them to collaborate with one another, the finance minister added.

She also said that innovative financing and funding mechanisms for cities could have significant potential to fill the increasing funding gaps.

"It can complement the pool of funds available for infrastructure in addition to public investment and financing provided by Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), she added.

Sitharaman also suggested that the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to use innovative financing ways to better address infrastructure needs of member countries.

G20 helped spearhead many reforms

The G20 has helped spearhead a number of reforms to the global tax, anti-money laundering architecture, which has helped shape the discourse towards jurisdictions not only adopting a more holistic approach to financial crimes, but also aided them to collaborate with one another, FM said. She added that innovative financing mechanisms for cities could have potential to fill the increasing funding gaps.

Number of start-ups will increase 10 times in 5 yrs: Rajeev Chandrasekhar

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

IN the next four-five years, there will be 10,000 unicorns from the present 108 unicorns and the number of start-ups will increase 10 times, said Minister of State for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Electronics & IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar.

Speaking at the JITO Incubation Innovation Foundation (JIIF) 6th Foundation Day and Investors/Startup Conclave in Hyderabad, Chandrasekhar said from being predominantly focused on IT and ITes, the next four to five years will witness substantial growth for start-ups and unicorns.

"In 2014, our nation's tech landscape was limited to IT and ITes. However, since then, opportunities have emerged across various domains such as deep tech, AI, data economy, semiconductor design, micro-electronics, and high-performance computing," he said.

He added, "From 108 unicorns I am sure we will reach 10,000 in the next 4-5 years. Today we have over a lakh start-ups in India and it will increase by 10 times," the minister said.

He also highlighted the country's progress in building unicorns and start-ups and how they have successfully entered areas in emerging technologies, such as AI, Web 3, and deep tech.

Chandrasekhar said that through strategic partnerships with both big and small companies, the government now works closely to identify necessary skills, creating a comprehensive framework with the active involvement of academia, communities and corporations.

He added that community and corporate partnerships are very important elements to start-ups.

Sable qualifies for 2024 Paris Olympics

Ace 3000m steeplechaser Avinash Sable on Sunday became the first Indian track athlete to qualify for the 2024 Paris Olympics after finishing sixth with his second career-best time in the Silesia Diamond League meet. 28-year-old Sable clocked 8 minute 11:63 seconds, breached the Paris Olympics qualifying mark of 8:15.00 by a fair margin.

PIC: AP

ALCA-RAGE

The 20-year-old Spaniard surpassed Djokovic 1-6, 7-6(6), 6-1, 3-6, 6-4 to win his first Major on grass

FIRST SET
Carlos Alcaraz his moments. Unfortunately, most of it came in the first four minutes. He squandered an opportunity to break Djokovic's serve. The Serb won five consecutive games to open the set as Alcaraz looked to be a shadow of the player who breezed past Daniil Medvedev in the semis.
Djokovic 6-1 Alcaraz

SECOND SET
At various points during the early stages of the second stanza, this threatened to become a procession. But Alcaraz displayed his staying powers with some popcorn tennis, including the backhand return winner that sealed the set in the tie-break. This was the Serb's first time finishing on the losing end of a tie-break after 15 successive wins.
Djokovic 6-7 (6) Alcaraz

THIRD SET
The Spaniard, who was locked in, claimed a wild 20-minute game off Djokovic's serve to get the insurance break he desperately needed. Post that, he didn't look in trouble as he took a two sets to one lead and it left Djokovic, perhaps predictably, taking a bathroom break.
Djokovic 1-6 Alcaraz

FOURTH SET
The bathroom break is one of Djokovic's true weapons. He came out a different man. With Alcaraz struggling to operate at the same intensity, Djokovic reeled him in with experience. It was no surprise that an Alcaraz double fault was the final point of the fourth set.
Djokovic 6-3 Alcaraz

FIFTH SET
Alcaraz saved a break point. He also converted a break point. Against most players, that's as good as the match done. Against the Serb, though, that's just the beginning. Alcaraz used that as the platform and never looked like dropping serve for the rest of the match before serving out to win the Championship.
Djokovic 4-6 Alcaraz

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Chennai

CARLOS Alcaraz is good, eh. Very, very good. That point would have held water even without the way he married skill and fight inside Centre Court on a sun-kissed July evening. In the years to come, it's highly likely that this will be the match that people will remember when talking about their first impressions of the wunderkind from El Palmar, a nondescript village near Murcia in southeastern Spain.

It's very hard to beat Novak Djokovic in the final of a Major (23/35 coming into the final). It's harder, still, to beat the Serb in five sets in the final of a Major (4-1), especially after losing the first set. The hardest thing, of course, is to take a tie-break off him (15-0 across the last 15 tie-breaks). Alcaraz ticked all of those boxes to hand the 36-year-old his first loss at SW19 since 2016 (in 2017, he retired with an injury after losing the first set).

What made it possible is to get to the very heart of the true Alcaraz experience. He takes risks others wouldn't know how to. But taking risks is just one aspect of the Spaniard's game. He has the belief and the gumption to pull it off. At one point in the fifth set, a failed drop shot didn't deter him from returning to that favoured shot of his less than a minute later. It led to a winner. It was one of the many fascinating passages of play in a match that contained lots of it.

The fifth game of the third set was a case in point. Alcaraz is up 3-1 but Djokovic is 40-15 and is looking at a relatively straight-forward hold. That's when this final truly loaded up a few bullets and decided to take the millions of fans on a wild ride. 32 points, 13 deuces, multiple game points squandered... it had everything before a Djokovic unforced error gave the 20-year-old a much-needed insurance hold. Ten minutes later, Alcaraz was up two sets to one and was dreaming of becoming the third youngest men's winner of this Slam in history after Boris Becker and Bjorn Borg.

The pendulum had truly shifted after a chastening opening 30 minutes or so. With Alcaraz making errors, Djokovic didn't need an invitation. All the Serb had to do was be clean. He did with that minimal fuss and the 6-1 scoreline didn't flatter the 36-year-old, who was chasing a record-equalling eighth Slam on the surface as well as a record-extending 24th overall among men. However, there is a reason why Alcaraz is the real deal; not just the future but the present. In a display filled with plenty of nous and no less spirit — traits that one haven't usually associated with young tennis players whenever they have come up against the Big Three in big finals — the Spaniard won his second Major to go with last year's US Open. The passage of play that eventually wrapped up the Championship came early in the fifth set. What made it more special — a kind of batons being exchanged — was the manner in which it unfolded.

After saving a break point thanks to a failed Djokovic volley to make it 1-1, the 20-year-old produced a backhand winner for the ages to break at 2-1. The celebration to winning the point spoke volumes about what he thought of it.

Why players like Djokovic have routinely won the biggest titles is their ability to hold serve with minimal fuss immediately after a break. Alcaraz did just that in the next game; a love hold to break open the fifth set. Djokovic tried his damnedest to get back but his mission was foiled. After more than four hours and thirty minutes, the sport's grandest stage arose as one for the coronation of a new king at SW19.

You inspire me: Carlos to Djokovic

AFP @ London

CARLOS Alcaraz defeated seven-time champion Novak Djokovic to claim his first Wimbledon title on Sunday, shattering the Serb's dream of a record-equalling 24th Grand Slam crown.

It was a second major for the 20-year-old Spaniard following his US Open title last year as he became Wimbledon's third youngest men's champion.

When Djokovic won his first major at the Australian Open in 2008, Alcaraz was still three months shy of his fifth birthday. "You inspire me a lot," Alcaraz told Djokovic after becoming the third Spanish winner of the title, following in the footsteps of Manuel Santana in 1966 and Nadal in 2008 and 2010. "I started playing tennis watching you. Since I was born you were already winning tournaments. It is amazing," he added with a smile after firing 66 winners past the Serb, off-setting his 45 unforced errors.

Spain's Carlos Alcaraz (C) is embraced by coaches, friends and family in the players box | AFP

"You came up with some big plays in the big situation and you absolutely deserve it," said Djokovic. "As for me, you never like to lose matches like these but I guess when all the emotions are settled I'll have to be very grateful. I won many tight and close matches in the past here, to name a few. 2019 against Roger. Maybe I should have lost a few finals that I won so maybe this is Even Stevens." The Serb went into the final not having lost on Centre Court since his 2013 defeat to Andy Murray in the title match.

BADMINTON

Sen out of US Open, loses to Feng in semis

AGENCIES @ Council Bluffs

ACE Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen fought hard before going down in three games against reigning All England champion Li Shi Feng of China in the men's singles semifinals of the US Open badminton tournament here.

Lakshya, seeded third here, lost 17-21, 24-22, 17-21 against second-seed Feng in a gruelling last-four match that lasted one hour and 16 minutes in the BWF Super 300 event on Saturday night. It was a close fight between world No. 7 Feng and Lakshya, ranked 12th, in the opening game till 17 points before the Chinese surged ahead with aggressive play as the Indian committed some unforced errors to take the lead. But world championships bronze medallist Lakshya was in no mood to give up without a fight and bounced back strongly in the second game.

Just like the opener, the second game too witnessed a tooth-and-nail fight. Both were involved in long rallies and tried to outwit each other with a mix of clever drop shots and smashes but the battle continued till 22 points before Sen pocketed two straight points to draw level and take the match into decider.

Left high & dry for no fault of theirs

National camps for the country's wrestlers have not been held this year with only a few exceptions. This has deprived the grapplers especially the youngsters of prescribed diet, specialised training, scientific testing and physical assessment. Firoz Mirza takes a look at what these wrestlers missed in the first six months in absence of national camps which otherwise would have helped them prepare better and under watchful eyes and able guidance...

WHAT WRESTLERS WOULD HAVE GOT AT THE CAMPS

- A Boarding which includes diet per wrestler **₹690 per day**
- B Additional diet allowances (70kg & below) **₹430 per wrestler per day**
- C Additional diet allowances (above 70kg) **₹750**
- D Sports kit **₹20,000** per wrestler (once in a year)
- E 100 grams of almond per wrestler per day
- F Insurance **₹2264** premium
- G Physical assessment and scientific testing which is not possible at their respective akhadas
- H Sparring partners from across the country which they hardly get at their respective training venues
- I Support staff like physiotherapist, strength and conditioning coaches, masseurs, psychologists

NOTE

1 The figures are taken from the administrative sanction given to organise national camp for senior men and women wrestlers for the 2023 Asian Championships.

2 The diet allowance of age group wrestlers are different. As per administrative sanction given for sub-junior girls last year, `480 per wrestler per day was approved.

RELIEF FOR A FEW

However, the SAI has given an exception to a few select wrestlers...

- International training camps was approved under TOPS for Bajrang Punia and Vinesh Phogat.
- Bajrang left for Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan for 36 days training camp early this month.
- Vinesh could not go to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan for a week of training but then left for Budapest, Hungary for Ranking Series. She is then supposed to train in Tata, Hungary for 18 days.
- Both are accompanied by their coaches, sparring partners, physiotherapists.
- The government is funding air tickets, boarding and lodging cost, camp expenses, airport transfer costs, OPA and other miscellaneous costs.
- Besides, Sakshi Malik and her husband Satyawart Kadian left for USA and the training camp was reportedly sanctioned under the National Sports Development Fund.

Jyothi shines as India finishes third

KALYANI MANGALE @ Chennai

ON the final day, India added 12 medals to finish third in the medal tally at the 25th Asian Athletics Championship in Bangkok. Parul Chaudhary and Jyothi Yarraji won their second medals for women's 5000 m and women's 200 m, respectively, to take India's total medal tally to 27, equalling the medal tally from Bhubaneswar in 2017.

In the 4x400 m relay, the men's team of Amoj Jacob, Muhammad Ajmal, Mijo Kurian and Ramesh Rajesh clocked 3:01.80 seconds to win the silver medal. The women's team, on the other hand, with Rezoana, Aishwarya, Jyothika and Subha won a bronze medal in a time of 3:33.73, coming up with the season's best performance. Radhakrishnan Nair, chief athletics coach, said they were expecting gold medals in both the 4x400m men's and women's relay today.

"We could have won a gold medal in relays, it was in our hands. The strategy could have been different and we could have won gold in both men's and women's 4x400m relays," Nair said.

He informed about the future plans of the men's and women's relay teams as well. "Our men's 4x400m relay team has qualified (as of now) for Budapest World Championships (in August) at 13th position but we can't take it for granted. To confirm our qualification, the same relay team will take part in the Sri Lankan Championships, which is a 'B' category event, on July 30.

"The women's 4x400m relay team, which can also qualify if they run below 3:30.00, and mixed 4x400m relay team, which narrowly missed qualification, will also take part in Sri Lanka," he added.

Two of India's medal on the final day came from 20 kms race walking. Priyanka Goswami bagged the silver in women's 20km race walk with a time of 1:34:24, while Vikash Singh settles for bronze in men's 20km race walk, clocking 1:29:32.

Throughout the tournament, Men's shot putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor, women's hurdler Yarraji, triple jumper Abdulla Aboobacker, women's steeplechaser Chaudhary, men's 1500m runner Ajay Kumar Saroj and the mixed 4x400m relay team of Rajesh Ramesh, Aishwarya Mishra, Amoj Jacob, and Subha Venkatesan accounted for India's six gold medals at the Asian Athletics Championships 2023 in Bangkok, four more than the previous edition in Doha 2019.

Overall, in the Asian Athletics Championships 2023, Japan topped the medal tally with 37 medals, including 16 golds. Followed by China, who bagged 22 medals, with eight gold.

Duleep Trophy: South Zone clinch title

AGENCIES @ Bengaluru

SOUTH Zone applied finishing touches to their superiority across the last four days, defeating West Zone by 75 runs to clinch the Duleep Trophy here on Sunday.

Chasing 298 to win, West Zone, overnight 182/5, were bowled out for 222. Left-arm spinner Sai Kishore and pacer Vasuki Koushik were the pick of the bowlers for South Zone, sharing seven wickets among them. This was South's 14th title win in the Duleep Trophy, and they will also count this as a sweet revenge.

In the 2022 final, West had beaten South by 294 runs. Priyank Panchal, who started the day on 92, was the biggest stumbling block in South's march to the title, and he could add only three runs this morning. Panchal edged pacer Vidwath Kaverappa, who was later adjudged player of the match. **Brief scores:** South Zone 213 & 230 bt West Zone 146 & 222 84.2ovs (Panchal 95; Koushik 4/36, Sai Kishore 4/57).

The Hanuma Vihari-led side beat West Zone on the fifth day of the final | EXPRESS

EXPRESS READ

Indian lifters sign off with 20 medals

GREATER NOIDA: Lovepreet Singh and Purnima Pandey finished on the podium on the final day as hosts India wrapped up the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships with a rich haul of 20 medals here on Sunday. Indian weightlifters won a silver and a bronze medal on the last day of the competition. India won nine gold, as many silver and two bronze medals in total.

Aditi back in Top-10 at Dana Open

SYLVANIA: Aditi Ashok fired her second bogey-free round of the week, carding a solid four-under 67 in the third round of the Dana Open on the LPGA Tour. Aditi, who already has four Top-10s this second, once again moved into the Top-10 as she was Tied-ninth with one more round to go. Aditi shot one-under 70 in the second and is now 10-under for 54 holes after on a long, rainy third day at Highland Meadows.

Coyle returns as Chennaiyin head coach

CHENNAI: Chennaiyin FC announced the return of Owen Coyle as their head coach ahead of the 2023-24 Indian Super League season on a multi-year deal. The experienced Scotsman, who has won Premier League Manager of the Month Award thrice, has had a successful stint with the Chennaiyin FC last time when he led the club to the final of 2019-20 ISL season.

WAKE-UP CALL

India women get reality check after first-ever ODI loss to B'desh

GOMESH S @ Chennai

ON Friday night, the BCCI had announced the India squads for the Asian Games, where they will be making their debut. While the men's will be a second string side, it is the Harmanpreet Kaur-led women's team that raised eyebrows for the players named and left out. And as is the case often, no explanations were given for the same. In the 48 hours since, India have failed to chase 153 against Bangladesh — their first loss against the hosts in the format — in the rain-curtailed first ODI in Mirpur on Sunday.

From the outset, one might wonder the relation between a T20 squad selection and a ODI performance. However, there is a pattern. The selections, the rotation of players, the roles they have in the playing XI and the tactics. As for selections, in the Asiad squad four players, who were not a part of the Bangladesh tour, have been brought back or called-up into the 15, including Rajeshwari Gayakwad who was not a part of the NCA camps as well. And five have been either left out or kept in standby, including the quickest pacer in the squad — Pooja Vastrakar. Renuka Singh and Radha Yadav injured and Shikha Pandey still seem to be out of favours.

Brief scores: Bangladesh 152/9 in 43 ovs (Nigar 39; Amanjot 4/31) bt India 113 all out in 35.5 ovs (Deepti 20; Marufa 4/29) DLS method.

Bangladesh women beat India in the first ODI in Mirpur on Sunday | BCB TWITTER

For the Bangladesh ODIs, they had picked Priya Punia on Sunday in place of Shafali Verma, one of the few in the squad who can take on spinners on turning tracks. What more, the other spin-hitter Vastrakar came in to bat at No. 10. Apart from that, India had eleven players who are a key part of their respective domestic batting units. And yet, as they fell short by 40-runs, skipper Kaur said that they gave away 20 extra runs. "We bowled many loose balls and were not up to the mark. Obviously, in the batting department, nobody took responsibility," she said after the match.

As for roles, their T20I No. 3 Jemimah Rodrigues batted at No. 5 for the first time in her career. If her wicket all but ended the hopes on Sunday, in the third T20I, they had collapsed after Kaur got out. Through the T20I series, India had used a lot of part-time spin and on Sunday, they bowled 25 overs (of 43) of spin while Marufa Akter, a genuine pacer, ran through the middle-order to hand them their first defeat of this ODI championship cycle. Perhaps, the only positive from the loss was the performance of debutant Amanjot Kaur who took a four-fer.

That being said, the Championship points would seem inconsequential as they qualify as hosts for the next World Cup. India might still come back to claim the series, but this loss should come as a wake-up call as such inconsistencies aren't going to help when they play England and Australia at home later this year. Nor is it helping to build on the momentum created by the inaugural Women's Premier League.

The exponential increase in competition with each passing year has set a standard that most students find overwhelming. **Lovely Majumdar** and **Saumyangi Yadav** spoke to doctors, academicians and experts to understand if NEET is setting needlessly high standards or producing automatons who fail to imbibe knowledge

WHAT FUELS THE CRAZY RISE IN NEET COMPETITION?

WHAT should you think before attempting one of the most competitive and coveted exams in the country? Is having the zeal to become a doctor enough to give your aspirations wings? The National cum Eligibility Test for Undergraduate (NEET UG), introduced in the year 2013, has now completed its ninth year. As many as 6,58,040 students appeared when the exam was introduced in 2013. This year, with 20,38,596 students attempting it, the numbers saw an astounding rise of 210%.

But looking at the rising popularity of the exam and the exponential increase in the number of NEET aspirants appearing each year, what should students keep in mind before taking up a challenge that would not only require constant toiling but added perseverance and a clear mindset that allows them to venture into their interests.

What are the perils?

Given the trends in NEET UG that one can foresee, it is evidently clear that the competition is about to move at a steadfast speed. But should students be fearful of this? An Assistant Professor from AIIMS, on condition of anonymity, is of the opinion that the difficulty level of NEET is not different from that of AIPMT (All India Pre-Medical Entrance Test) which she had attempted. "Even if there were fewer students then, one cannot forget that there were fewer seats too. For me, it was more difficult to secure a medical seat back then."

Dr Arvind Pandey who is an Associate Professor in the Department of Anatomy at Kasturba Medical College (KMC) Manipal is of the opinion that the competitiveness amongst the students is now visible with time. He emphasised how students are now studying critical-based questions, thinking laterally about subjects and gearing up for what is to come.

But is it too surprising for such an exam to not be competitive in nature? Vikas R Keshri, a public health and policy expert, dictates that the competition is supposed to be high, not just in India but in other countries as well. "Pursuing medicine is a serious profession and to maintain the quality of doctors and improve the healthcare sector, a standard of difficulty is a must."

tough test

Why not increase seats?

But if the competition is increasing with lakhs of students being added to the list every year, what could come as an immediate solution? Perhaps the government can increase the availability of seats that ensures a healthy proportionate ratio to meet the spike in number of students? But experts opine differently.

Keshri says, "There has to be a gradual increase otherwise the profession might get saturated." The overabundance of doctors isn't a solution to the problems, he says, "An increase in the number of seats will not bring an equal distribution of medical staff." The expert stipulates that this will lead to an increase in the number of medical practitioners in urban areas and hence, it is of no use if such a basic facility is not being availed by all.

Aakash Kumar, an expert from sankalpbharat.com, a platform that offers e-coaching, says that although the government is trying to build colleges, this itself wouldn't suffice. "Fewer number of teachers and faculty in colleges, lack of clinical materials, need of better labs and other elements are prerequisites for a good institution."

720/720, achievable or hoax?

Looking at the data since the onset of the pandemic, the performance of the students has been remarkably excellent. Each year, the number of students scoring cent per cent marks is on the rise but many believe that earlier, scoring in the 600s was next to unachievable. So, does this imply that students are more focused on 'scoring' than 'learning'?

The AIIMS professor is of the opinion that score and knowledge don't go in tandem as adherence to coaching culture and limited study modules is severely limiting the students' critical thinking abilities. "Students sometimes cannot respond to problems that need a different applied way of thinking. They want everything as choices," she says.

Disha Agrawal, a third-year MBBS student from Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi does not think it to be an impossible feat, "Almost every student is compelled to go for coaching. Few students start to prepare six years in advance." She adds that students have become a lot more textbook-oriented due to the prescribed syllabus, so the focus is narrowed down to just reading and retaining knowledge.

Can good scorers make good doctors?

A question that always crosses one's mind is that can these students become successful doctors? Dr Pandey who is also the Deputy Director of Student Affairs at Manipal Academy of Higher Education is of the opinion that students after joining a college slacken, even after scoring well in NEET. The reason? Many could never comprehend the amount of work that is to be invested not only in studies but certain communication skills and critical thinking abilities required to navigate through the whole course. "Coaching is, of course, beneficial but they are also sabotaging their life skills. They will not be aware of anything apart from the ABCDs of the exam." But when it comes to the exam that sets the parameter to filter the best among the best, does it stand up to its own objective? Vikash Keshri says, "NEET might not be the ideal exam as it does not measure intelligence or tests personality, but it is more accurate and fast."

NEET UG through the years

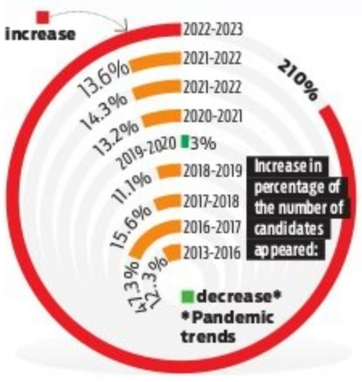
Let's delve into the year-by-year statistics of this prestigious medical entrance examination to gain a comprehensive understanding of the trends we see now

YEAR	APPEARED	QUALIFIED (per lakh)
2013	6.5	3.7
2014	Exam not held (AIPMT held instead)	
2015	Exam not held (AIPMT held instead)	
2016	7.3	4
2017	10.9	6.1
2018	12.6	7.1
2019	14	7.9
2020	13.6	7.7*
2021	15.4	7.9
2022	17.6	9.9
2023	20	11.5

Source: Reports

FIGURES ARE APPROXIMATES

*PANDEMIC TRENDS



Increase in percentage of number of candidates qualified:

2013-2016	8.1%
2016-2017	52.5%
2017-2018	16.4%
2018-2019	11.3%
2019-2020	2.5% decrease*
2020-2021	2.5%
2021-2022	25.3%
2022-2023	16.2%
2013-2023	increase 211%

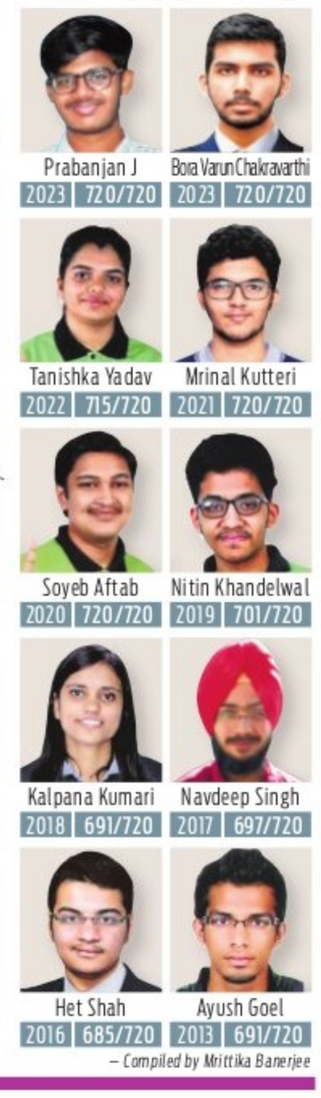
*Pandemic trends

QUALIFYING SCORE

2023 TOP STUDENTS SCORED

Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3	Rank 4-19
720	720	716	715

TOP SCORERS



Prabanjan J | 2023 | 720/720
Bora Varun Chakravarthi | 2023 | 720/720
Tanishka Yadav | 2022 | 715/720
Mrinal Kutteri | 2021 | 720/720
Soyeb Aftab | 2020 | 720/720
Nitin Khandelwal | 2019 | 701/720
Kalpana Kumari | 2018 | 691/720
Navdeep Singh | 2017 | 697/720
Het Shah | 2016 | 685/720
Ayush Goel | 2013 | 691/720

– Compiled by Mrittika Banerjee

Counselling taking too long? Here's what you can do meanwhile...

Experts suggest conducting thorough research on the prospective colleges ahead of the counselling, visiting campuses, talking to seniors for better understanding and starting ahead of the curriculum

THE admission process for undergraduate medical courses in India will soon be initiated by the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC).

The process can be long and taxing for the students, with the counselling process itself lasting around four to six weeks. So, how can medical aspirants utilise this time in a better and more constructive way? Here are a few tips from medical professors, experts and people from the medical field on what you can do during this time:

Research, be prepared: When it comes to choosing a college for yourself, you can never be too prepared. Experts suggest conducting thorough research on the basis of seat allotment trends of the previous years to get a general idea of where you stand before the counselling starts.

"Make sure to explore more about all colleges, their fee structures, their faculty, their doctors and what kind of specialisations they offer," said Jayaprakash Gandhi, a career consultant and analyst.

Visit campuses if possible: Secondly, experts believe that the students should utilise their time by visiting campuses of at least a few medical colleges.

"If it is possible, do visit and check what kind of hostel facilities the college offers, in case you are an outstation student. Check the faculty strength in the institute, how is the infrastructure of classes, labs and what kind of student involvement programmes like seminars and conferences do they offer. When you visit and see for yourself, you get a better idea of what the student life is going to be like in that place," Dr Uma Sekar, Vice-Chancellor, Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research.

look out

Start ahead: Lastly, when you have a good idea about the college you wish to gain admission into, start going through basic topics from the MBBS curriculum to get a headstart into the course.

"Now, there is a uniform curriculum for MBBS across all medical colleges in India. The curriculum and papers that are prescribed by the NMC can be accessed online so if time permits, the students can always do this," explained Dr Vishnu Gupta, Professor and Head of Department (Anatomy), Muzaffarnagar Medical College, Uttar Pradesh.

SPEAK TO SENIORS

Another way to get an idea about any college is by reaching out to its current or former students. "It is better to contact former students to know more about the facilities and quality of education," explained Dr Dhruv Chauhan, National Zonal Coordinator, Indian Medical Association - Medical Students Network

Overcoming the financial barrier: Scholarships to pursue medicine in India

The cost of pursuing medical education can surely pose significant financial challenge but, there are good scholarships to support talented and deserving students. We bring you a couple of them

1 NATIONWIDE EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP TEST (NEST):
- Offered by the organisation the Students' Unity Foundation of India
- Available for first to fourth-year students enrolled in an MBBS/BAMS/BHMS or BDS degree
- Covers tuition fees up to a maximum of ₹50,000

2 VAHANI SCHOLARSHIP:
- Offered by the Vahani Group
- Open to Class XII students with exceptional potential who have overcome exceedingly challenging circumstances
- Covers the entire course fee of the undergraduate programme

3 HDFC EDUCATIONAL CRISIS SCHOLARSHIP:
- Offered by HDFC Bank
- Those applicants whose family has faced an unfortunate event/crisis in the previous two years are eligible
- Scholarship amount ranges between ₹10,000 to ₹25,000

4 INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY TEST (IM-SET):
- Conducted by the American University of Barbados (AUB)
- Open to Class XII students studying in private/government/government-aided schools
- School medium or board can be from any territory in India

5 BIGYANI KANYA MEDHA BRITTI SCHOLARSHIP (JBNSTS), WEST BENGAL:
- Offered by the organisation Jagadis Bose National Science Talent Search (JBNSTS), Kolkata
- Only girl students are eligible
- Applicants must have passed Class XII or equivalent exams and be pursuing an undergraduate programme like Medical/Engineering/BSc (Honours) (first-year) from a West Bengal-registered institution
- Provides ₹4,000 per month and other benefits

fee help

6 DR APJ ABDUL KALAM SCHOLARSHIP:
- Offered by central and state-level government organisations
- Meritorious students belonging to economically weaker sections are eligible
- Provides financial assistance for tuition fees, accommodation and books

7 MAULANA AZAD NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP:
- Offered by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India
- Open to students from minority communities in the pursuit of an MBBS degree
- Provides financial assistance to cover tuition fees and other educational expenses

8 INSPIRE SCHOLARSHIP FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (SHE):
- Offered by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India
- Candidates must be top performers in Class XII Board exams pursuing Basic and Natural Science courses
- Provides scholarship amount and mentorship support

9 FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP:
- Offered by Foundation for Excellence
- Open to meritorious students from economically weaker sections
- Provides financial assistance for tuition fees and living expenses

10 NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY:
- Offered by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disability, Government of India
- Open to students with disabilities pursuing professional courses like MBBS and so on
- Offers up to ₹30,000 per annum as a scholarship

11 ONGC SCHOLARSHIP:
- Offered by Oil and Natural Gas Company (ONGC)
- Open to meritorious students from economically weaker sections pursuing professional courses like MBBS and more
- Provides up to ₹48,000 per annum

12 LILA POONAWALLA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP:
- Offered by the trust Lila Poonawalla Foundation
- Open to women students pursuing undergraduate and postgraduate courses in various streams, including MBBS and so on
- Provides up to ₹1,00,000 per annum

13 AIIMS FELLOWSHIP:
- Offered by All India Institute Of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi
- For students admitted to MBBS programmes at AIIMS
- Includes stipend and other benefits too

14 BIHAR GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR OBC/EBC/SC/ST:
- Offered by the State Government of Bihar
- Open to OBC/EBC/SC/ST category students pursuing MBBS
- Provides up to ₹50,000 per annum

Competition: Then and now

Doctors and medical students weigh in on medical entrance exams during their time, the competition around them, the prevalence of coaching centres and their mental state while appearing for the exam

RHEA RAJKUMAR, National Exchange Officer, Medical Students' Association of India

I was in the first batch to appear for NEET in Tamil Nadu and due to a paper leak, I had to reappear. Though I cleared NEET, I wasn't able to get into a national institute. The state was not recognising NEET, which delayed the counselling and I reappeared in 2017. There was a lot of uncertainty among students because of the politics around NEET. I took coaching only once. It was back then it started to emerge. People around me started signing up for coaching, just because everyone else was doing it. Nothing much has changed in this regard if you ask me. In the third year, we realised we had to appear for a PG entrance exam, which meant we would fall back into the same stressful cycle of coaching and entrance exams again

DR ROHAN KRISHNAN, Chairman, Federation of All India Medical Association

I wrote my exam in 2010 by qualifying state-level pre-medical test. Medical entrance exams have always been competitive. Back then, there were about 9,000 seats and even a 5,000 rank wouldn't have fetched anyone a seat. The exam had two rounds and the cut-off was high. Coaching, which even I opted for, was at an embryonic stage. But at least the counselling wasn't as time-consuming or hectic. There is scope for improvement in this aspect as the process is delayed every year. Students of the present day surely are more stressed and anxious

DR SHARAD AGARWAL, National President, Indian Medical Association

For 700 seats, there were six lakh students when I wrote the All India Pre-Medical Test (AIPMT) in 1998. Cut-offs were high, 60% for General category students. There were few government medical colleges and barely any private ones. There was no counselling, just filling of an application. Coaching was there but not as organised. However, as organised as it is, coaching today has become expensive. Where I spent ₹300, students now are spending ₹15,000. Cost factor today is an added pressure and the stakes are much higher for students now

SOUMYA THOMAS, Medical Graduate (2022), Mysore Medical College

I appeared for NEET in 2016 as well as the state Pre-Medical Test. NEET is competitive now, with students in a mad rush to clear the exam. But once they clear it, counselling is smooth. However, when they enter a medical college, they realise how much work it takes to pursue medicine – the hours they have to put in, the studying they have to do followed by the internship. My batchmates switched careers as they couldn't cope with the stress. Also, coaching has become more prevalent today

DR SHUBKARMAN SINGH, Medical Intern, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, Delhi

I gave NEET UG in 2018 and the competition was tough. About 14 lakh students appeared. Even the paper, which was set by CBSE, was tough. Ever since the National Testing Agency took over, it has become easier. I am from Haryana and I came to Delhi for coaching, which was difficult. I cleared NEET with an AIR 433. The counselling process was easy. Now, I need to prepare for NEET PG. I realised that the two years of stress that I went through was just a phase and that more stress is to come

SNIKITHA TUMMALA, Medical Student, AIIMS Delhi

When I wrote NEET UG in 2020, I secured an All-India Rank 3. The exam was more difficult when I appeared for it, as only two people could secure a perfect 720 out of 720. Now, however, the paper has become easier and more people are able to score full marks. The exam syllabus is not deviating from the NCERT syllabus, which no longer warrants special coaching. As a result, the competition has gone up. Almost everyone who wrote NEET in 2020 attended coaching. I was one of those students too. I felt that the coaching centres put unnecessary pressure on the students at times, but it is easy to navigate if you take it in a positive way

vox pop

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

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17•07•2023
MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Spanish Civil War

The Spanish Civil War began on this day in 1936, when generals Emilio Mola and Francisco Franco began an uprising to overthrow the republic

POWER SEIZED

In rural areas with a strong right-wing political presence, Franco's confederates generally won out. They quickly seized political power and instituted martial law

HEAD OF STATE

The Nationalist captaincy was assumed by General Franco On October 1, 1936, he was named head of state and set up a government in Burgos

PRELUDE TO WORLD WAR

The Spanish Civil War is sometimes called a prelude to World War II. Many foreign powers supported different sides of the Spanish Civil War

Check out the events happening in the city

PG 2

Ahead of her performance in support of the Bengaluru Poetry Festival next month, playback singer Maalavika Sundar speaks to *CE* about the need for carnatic fusion music in the industry and performing in Bengaluru

BALLADS OF FUSION

DESE GOWDA

AFTER nearly four years, playback singer and classical musician **Maalavika Sundar** is returning to the city early next month. The 35-year-old, known for her melodic carnatic and fusion numbers, will be headlining the upcoming Bengaluru Poetry Festival, organised by Atta Galatta at Grand Mercure, Gopalan Signature Mall, on Old Madras Road. "I'm really looking forward to performing in the city. I have a lot of people who admire my music there, and I've been getting a lot of requests to come there and perform," says Sundar expressing her excitement about her much-awaited performance.

Her first public performance in the city in at least four years promises to be a blend of musical styles, featuring a medley of original compositions, her signature classical fusion, and popular commercial numbers, spanning multiple languages, including Hindi, Punjabi, Telugu, Kannada, Tamil, and Malayalam. "It's gonna be a mix of everything," Sundar adds.

Despite not being an avid reader of poetry, Sundar appreciates the simple beauty of the art form. "For me, poetry is all about stories. So when I hear a poem, I always reach out to my grandparents and ask them to explain the story behind it. Recently, I heard the Tamil poet Bharatiyar's *Kuyil Pattu* and the story was just fascinating. Bharatiyar has inspired me to write," she says.

Having first come to the fore in the early 2010s with her performances on the reality singing show Super Singer, Sundar has gone on to establish herself as a sought-after playback singer in South Indian film industries. But despite mastering classical Carnatic style from a young age, Sundar wasn't exposed to mainstream film music until after her debut on *Super Singer*. "I hadn't heard any film songs until then. D Imam sir called me after watching one of my performances on *Super Singer*, and he thought my voice would be perfect for a folk song he'd been working on. *Dang Dang* (from 2014's *Manam Kothi Paravai*) actually helped me reach every nook and corner of Tamil Nadu," she says, adding that people would refer to her as Dang Dang Maalavika for a long time after that.

So how did her experimentation with fusion music come about? "When I used to go on tours earlier, I would see a lot of older people in the audience, and if there were a few younger ones, they'd usually be students of music. I think a lot of younger generations these days aren't interested in Carnatic music. Even if I don't know anything about the genres, I would still go to rock or jazz concerts. I think the younger generation should experiment, even if they don't necessarily know the language or the kind of music it is. So I thought maybe if I make my music sound different, in a way that would appeal to the younger generations, then I could get them to take an interest in Carnatic music. So I started doing Carnatic Fusion, incorporating classical songs with a hybrid set of percussion. And when we started to perform, there was a lot of appreciation for that," Sundar explains.

Currently, Sundar is working on a few original compositions, collaborating with artistes like MS Krishna. Several other projects, including commercial tracks in Tamil and Malayalam, are also in the pipeline.

SNEAKING IN

Sneakerheads came together for a private brunch affair, by SneakerStories X IST Hard Seltzer, and geeked out on sneaker culture | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

GAME REWIND: DON'T STARVE TOGETHER

PG 3

CMR UNIVERSITY
Private University Estd in Karnataka State by Act No.45 of 2013
BENGALURU
RECOGNISED BY UGC
UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVE SUPERPOWERS!
Enroll in the most creative programmes to embark on an extraordinary educational journey.
PURSUE CREATIVE PROGRAMMES @ CMRU
School of Design B.Des.
Product Design
Fashion Design
Communication Design
Interior Design
School of Science Studies B.Sc.
Sound Engineering
Visual Effects & Animation
School of Architecture B.Arch.
YOUR ARTISTIC TRIBE BECKONS!
AT CMRU
LAKESIDE CAMPUS
STAY AHEAD OF THE COMPETITION WITH CMRU ACCELERATED CREDITS
APPLY TODAY
to get trained & certified for FREE in niche courses
ADMISSIONS OPEN
AY 2023-24
SCAN FOR MORE DETAILS
ADMISSIONS HELPLINE 93429 00666
LAKESIDE CAMPUS:
Off Hennur-Bagalur Main Road,
Chagalahatti, Bengaluru - 562149
admissions@cmr.edu.in | www.cmr.edu.in

CITY READ

Workshop organised to enhance grassroot NGOs

Rebuild India Fund recently organised a successful introductory Partner Workshop in Bengaluru for community-led NGOs. Its aim was to empower institutions that had limited access to funding and were disproportionately affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The workshop was held on the July 16, 2023 in Bengaluru. At the workshop, sessions were organised on managing compliance, fundraising, communications, well-being, creating safe and inclusive workspaces, and theme-based discussions to drive collaborative impact in the sector, among others.

GRUB HUB

Aslam Gafoor (@aslamgafoor) is a hospitality professional with experience in business development, sales and marketing with well-known hotels, and food and beverage companies. A few of his passions are travel, food and wine, and he enjoys sharing these experiences as a columnist.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE* on Monday. The first prize winner will win a discount voucher worth ₹2,500 from Tiger Trail, Royal Orchid Hotel, Old Airport Road**

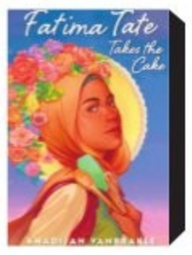
THE RIGHT ANSWERS

1) Dal Bafla 2) Tzatziki 3) Mezcal

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT

1) Hitesh G 2) Chandan S 3) Ganapathy V

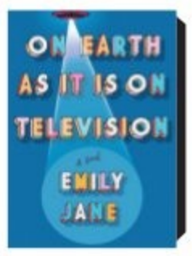
BOOK NOOK



Fatima Tate Takes the Cake

By Khadijah VanBrakle

Fatima Tate aspires to be a baker, against the wishes of her parents. Fatima leads a typical life, going on long drives with her best friend Zaynab, attending mosque services. A student named Raheem causes everything to change for the better.



On Earth As It Is On Television

By Emily Jane

In Emily Jane's rollicking and hilarious debut novel, where spaceships seem to arrive and then depart suddenly without a word, the certainty that we are not alone in the universe turns to intense uncertainty as to our place within it.

CHANGE OF NAME

We, HEMANSHU MAHENDRA SHAH, S/o. late Mahendra A. Shah, aged about 47 years and SAPNA HEMANSHU SHAH W/o. Mr.Hemanshu Mahendra Shah aged about 46 years, residing at Flat No.401, No.77, Sankeshwar Apartments, Serpentine road, Kumara Park West, Bangalore 560020, we have changed our daughter's name from **"VRITI HEMANSU SHAH"** to **"VRITI HEMANSHU SHAH"** vide affidavit dated 15.07.2023 sworn before Advocate and Notary M.S. Satish, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SAHANA,** aged 19yrs, D/o. Sathish, Resident of No. 2-91-5, Sai Nilaya, Shabaradi, Kokkada Dakshina Kannada-574158, today present at Bengaluru, have changed my name from **SAHANA** to **SAHANA SATHISH SAKALESHPUR,** vide affidavit dated: 15.07.2023 before notary **RATNA .N.,** Bengaluru.

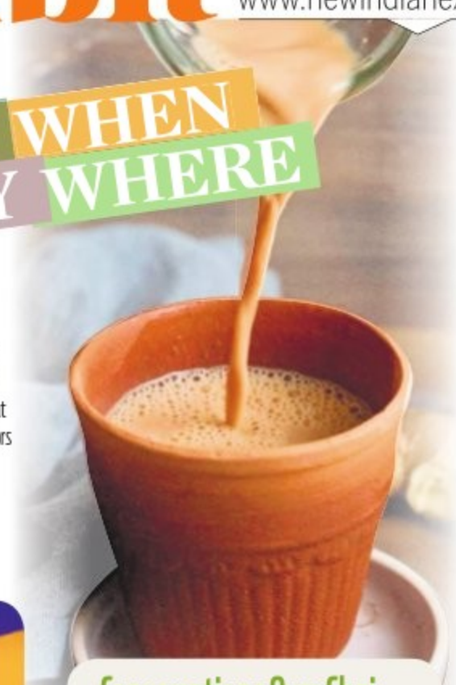
CHANGE OF NAME

I, **A R NAKUL GANGATKAR** Previously called **A R NAKUL GANGATGAR,** Aged about 24 years, S/o C A Ravishankar, resident of: No.298, 1st Cross, 5th Main, Nobel Residency, near Nandi Woods, Bangalore-560076. Hereby declare that, I have changed my name from **'A R NAKUL GANGATGAR'** to **"A R NAKUL GANGATKAR"** Vide Affidavit dated:15/07/2023. Sworn before Advocate and Notary K.V.Mani, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SHEETAL KALASH NAIKRANE,** W/o, Kalash Naikrane, aged about 45 years, Residing at, House No.623, Sanskriti, 2nd Main, 7th Cross, Sadashiv Nagar, Belgaum, Karnataka-590001, presently camped at Bengaluru, state that, as per in all Records, my Daughter's actual & correct name is **SIYA KALASH NAIKRANE,** not **SIYA,** and as per in my all Records, my actual & correct name is **SHEETAL KALASH NAIKRANE,** not **SHEETAL,** vide affidavit dated: 15-07-2023, sworn before Advocate & Notary, K.V. Mani, Bengaluru, my Daughter shall be known & called as **SIYA KALASH NAIKRANE** only, and I shall be known and called as **SHEETAL KALASH NAIKRANE** only, for all official & future purposes.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE



Motion and Movement

Enhance your physical strength and unlock your full potential with human movement and physical performances class with Priyabrat Panigrahi, one of India's few certified instructors of Functional Range Conditioning.

WHEN: July 17, 7am
WHERE: Shoonya, Centre for Art and Somatic Practices **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Conversations Over Chai

Have soulful conversations over chai and make new friends as you meet like-minded people.

WHEN: July 17, 7pm
WHERE: Small World: S.T. Bed, Koramangala
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Paint Away

Learn how to paint on wooden coasters using acrylic paints. Suitable for beginners who like to experiment with colours.

WHEN: July 17, 5pm
WHERE: Art Beat, HSR Layout
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Laughter Fest

Join some of the best comedians in the city for a night filled with laughter as they try new jokes and old materials.

WHEN: July 17, 8.30pm
WHERE: Glen's Bakehouse, Koramangala
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

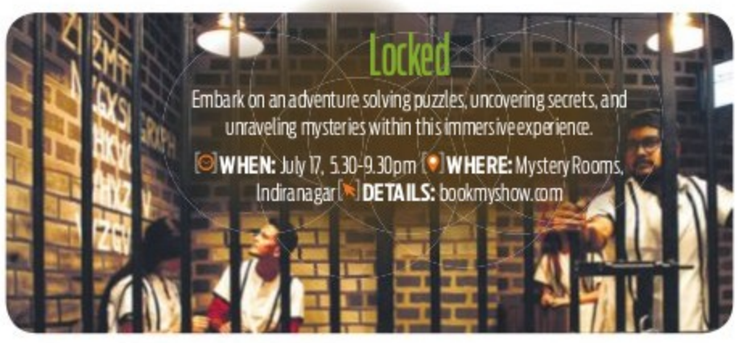
Monday Blues

Spend your Monday dancing away the blues with your favorite drink, amazing food and great music.

WHEN: July 17, 8pm
WHERE: The Boozy Griffin, Marathahalli
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Pottery Making

Indulge your artistic side and immerse yourself in the captivating world of pottery. This hands-on workshop offers a unique opportunity to explore both hand building and wheel throwing technique. **WHEN:** July 17, 10am **WHERE:** Wheel and Potter Pottery Studio, Srinivasa Nagar **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com



Locked

Embark on an adventure solving puzzles, uncovering secrets, and unraveling mysteries within this immersive experience.

WHEN: July 17, 5.30-9.30pm **WHERE:** Mystery Rooms, Indiranagar **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

AN ARTIST'S DELIGHT

Artists Seemanthini Desai and Jyotsna Kansi admire a painting during an exhibhition at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

FIT BIT

SASANGASANA VARIATION
(RABBIT POSE VARIATION)

In Sanskrit, sasanka means 'rabbit', and asana means 'pose'. In this pose, the body resembles the round spine of the rabbit and hence the name, Sasangasana or Rabbit Pose. It is also called as Hare Pose Variation.

STEPS

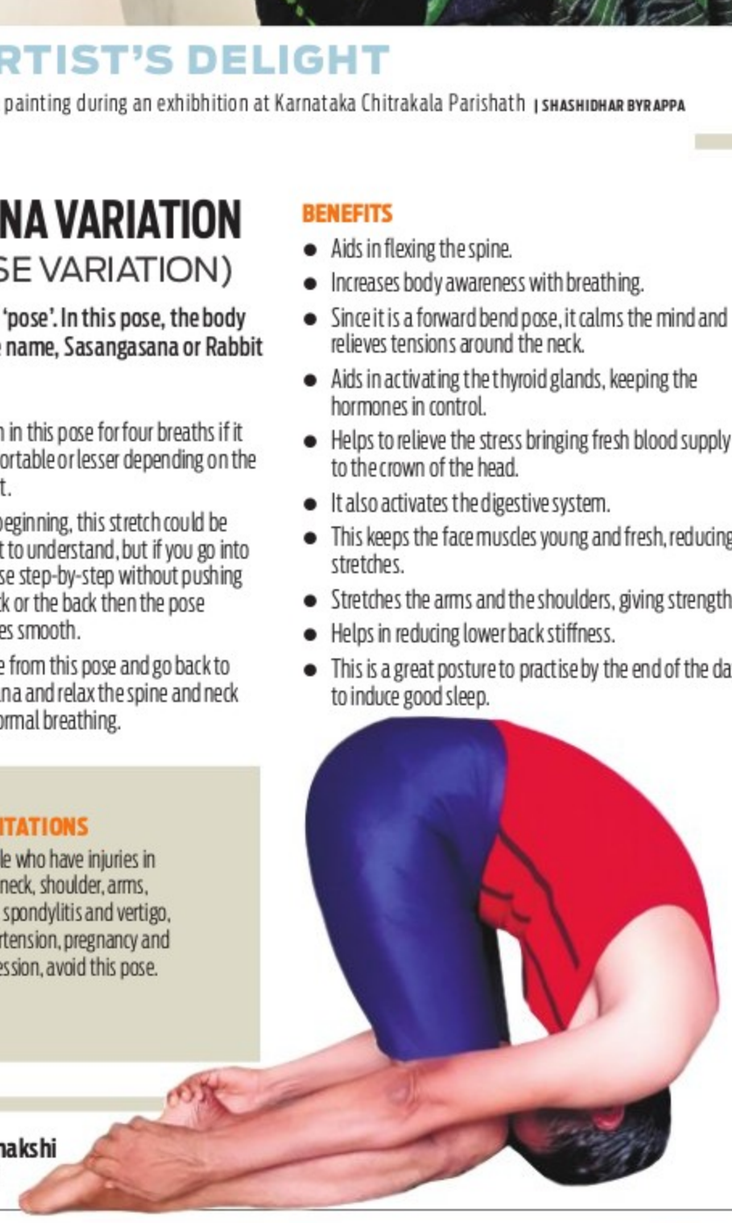
- First, move from Vakrasana, take the body to the slightly more difficult pose called Sasangasana or Rabbit Pose.
- Now, bring the body to Vajrasana. Take a few breaths here keeping the spine straight.
- Then, place your palms on your heels behind you, inhale and stretch the spine and take the head and place it on the floor. Exhale completely.
- Inhale and raise the entire back and bring it away from the heels and twisting the neck takes the stretch deep inside and close to the knee.
- Ensure there is no pressure on the head while taking this twist at the neck.
- After exhaling completely, stretch the arms, not letting go of the heels and feel the stretch at the neck and the shoulders with proper slow breathing.
- Remain in this pose for four breaths if it is comfortable or lesser depending on the comfort.
- In the beginning, this stretch could be difficult to understand, but if you go into this pose step-by-step without pushing the neck or the back then the pose becomes smooth.
- Release from this pose and go back to Vajrasana and relax the spine and neck with normal breathing.

LIMITATIONS

People who have injuries in their neck, shoulder, arms, back, spondylitis and vertigo, hypertension, pregnancy and depression, avoid this pose.

BENEFITS

- Aids in flexing the spine.
- Increases body awareness with breathing.
- Since it is a forward bend pose, it calms the mind and relieves tensions around the neck.
- Aids in activating the thyroid glands, keeping the hormones in control.
- Helps to relieve the stress bringing fresh blood supply to the crown of the head.
- It also activates the digestive system.
- This keeps the face muscles young and fresh, reducing stretches.
- Stretches the arms and the shoulders, giving strength.
- Helps in reducing lower back stiffness.
- This is a great posture to practise by the end of the day to induce good sleep.



By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **DHASHARATH SINGH JALAM** S/o **JALAM SINGH,** Residing at no 8/1, 3rd floor, M R lane, Cottonpet, Bengaluru -560053, have changed my name to **DASHRATH SINGH,** vide affidavit dated:15/7/2023 Before Notary **D.S. Chandrakanth** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) NEHA GUPTA, W/o. Neeraj Jain, resident of No. 201, 2nd Floor, 15-1, New 39, Hutchins Road, 2nd Cross, Thomas Town, Bangalore-560084, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) NEHA GUPTA** to **(NEW NAME) NEHA JAIN** vide affidavit Dated 15/07/2023 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **P.N.BOLLAVVA,** (Existing name of Spouse as Per ESM/PPO/Discharge/ Service Documents / Record) is legally wedded spouse of Service No.1152288, Rank: Ex Hav, Name: Late P.M.NANJAPPA Residing at No. 175/A, Konenagraha, 5th Main, Behind Syndicate Bank, Vimanapura, HAL Main Road, Bangalore-560017, Karanataka, that I have changed my name from **P.N.BOLLAVVA** (Old Name) to **P.N.HEMAVATHI** (New Name), vide Affidavit dated :15/07/2023 before Notary at **L.GOPALAKRISHNA,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Meghana V,** D/o Venkatesh, about 25 years, R/at No. 12, 7th Temple Road, 15th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560 003, do hereby declare that I have changed my minor daughter's name from **Hanvika .P** to **Heshika .P.** vide affidavit dated 14.07.2023 sworn to before A.R. Muneer Ahmed, Advocate & Notary Public, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **PUNAM DEVI,** Aged about 56 years, W/o. Shambhu Prasad Singh, Flat No. 284, Tower 2, DSR Waterscape Apartment, K Channasandra Main Road, Channasandra, Bengaluru - 560 043, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **POONAM KUMARI** to **PUNAM DEVI** vide affidavit dated 14.07.2023 sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate and Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

We, **1. SURBHI DWIVEDI,** Aged about 25 years, DOB: 13/05/1998, D/o. Sri. Satyam Dwivedi, W/o. Mr. Pinank Jain, **2. Mr. Pinank Jain,** Aged about 26 years, DOB: 20/04/1997, S/o. Sri. Mangal Jain, Both residing at No. 828, 13th Cross, 1st Stage, 2nd Phase, Chandra Layout, VTC Bangalore North, PO Nagarbhavi, Sub District, Bangalore North Dist., Bangalore - 560 072, do hereby declare that **SURBHI DWIVEDI** (maiden name of wife) D/o. Sri. SATYAM DWIVEDI would henceforth be known as **Mrs. SURBHI JAIN, W/o. Mr. PINANK JAIN** (name of wife after marriage) by virtue of our marriage. Vide affidavit dated 13.07.2023 sworn to before JAIN SWARNAMALA, Advocate and Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SUDIP JAIN,** also known as **SUDIP KASHIRAMJAIN,** aged about 55 years, late Kashiram Jain, residing at No 893, 'C' Block, AECS Layout, Kundalahalli, Bengaluru-560037. hereby declare that my names **SUDIP JAIN, SUDIP KASHIRAM JAIN, SUDIP KASHI RAM JAIN, JAIN SUDEEP KASHI, SUDIP K JAIN, SUDEEP JAIN, AND SUDEEP KASHI JAIN** are not different people and belongs to me only, vide affidavit dated 06-07-2023 sworn to before notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **KRISHNA KALKATH** R/at No. 745, 45th Cross, Jayanagar 8th Block, Bengaluru- 560070 have changed my name to **KRISHNA PATIL** vide affidavit dated: 14/7/2023 Before Notary **Aravind Patil G.G** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **LALITHA GOPALA REDDY,** W/o Gopala Reddy, aged about 65 years, R/at No. 902 B Block, Nagarjuna Premiera Apts, 100 Feet Road, Near Sin Door Choutry, JP Nagar 6th Phase, Bangalore-560078, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **LALITHA GOPALA REDDY** to **LALITHA .A,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **LALITHA .A** only, vide affidavit dated 13-07-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **L.PUTTARAJU** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, REKHA, resident at #5, 5th Cross, Near Chowdeshwari Temple, Devarachikkanahalli, Bengaluru-560076, have changed my name from **RAKU** to **REKHA** vide affidavit Dated 15th July 2023, sworn before Notary Aravind Patil GG, Bengaluru-560011.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SANDEEP MOHAN,** Aged about 39 years, S/o. Mohan Chikkanna, No. 674, 11th B Main, Near Raghavendra Temple, Jayanagar 5th Block, Marenahalli, Bengaluru - 560 041, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SANDEEP M BELLI** to **SANDEEP MOHAN** vide affidavit dated 14.07.2023 sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate and Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MANISHA S JAIN,** (Date of Birth: 22/07/1985), W/o. Shailesh Kumar and Resident of No. 303, 2nd Floor, 'Mahavideh Milan', No. 18, Railway Parallel Road, Nehru Nagar, Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru - 560 020, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MANISHA KUMARI** to **MANISHA S JAIN** vide affidavit dated 15.07.2023 sworn to before R. Basavaraja, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, JC-414378L Sub Anandan K Residing at Vellore have changed my daughter's name from **A AKSHARA** to **AKSHARA A** vide affidavit No. 9627 dt 01 Jul 2023 at Vellore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, FAZIL AHAMED K, resident of 803, Tower 4, Almora The Promount, 168 3rd Main Road, Ittamadu, Banashankari 3rd STAGE, Bangalore, Karnataka – 560085 have changed my name to **FAZIL AHAMED** Vide Affidavit dated 15.07.2023 sworn before advocate and notary CN Balasubramanyam, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SATHYA NARAYANA M** S/o **MUKUNDA RAO,** resident of No. 29, 1st Cross, Ashwathnagar, RMV Extension 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560094, Karnataka, state that my name **SATHYANARAYANA RAO M** is a variation of **SATHYA NARAYANA M** (Final Name) sworn vide affidavit dated 12-07-2023 before Notary **N Peruvazhuthi,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **AMBIKA N. BANAKAR,** W/o Harsha Malavalli, aged about 32 years, R/at #135, 5th Main Road, 7th Cross, KEB Layout, Sanjaynagar, R.M.V. Extn., II Stage, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560094, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **AMBIKA N. BANAKAR** to **AMBIKA MALAVALLI,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **AMBIKA MALAVALLI** only, vide affidavit dated 30-12-2022, sworn before Advocate and Notary **R. SULAKSHANA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MAGIMDIDOSS BANADIET** S/o Joseph Magimdidoss, Aged about 48 years, residing at Akash Staff Quarters, Akash International School, Prasanahalli, Devanahalli Town, Bengaluru Rural District, Karanataka-562 110, have changed my name from **JOSEPH MAGIMAIDASS BANADIET** to **MAGIMDIDOSS BANADIET,** vide affidavit dated 15/7/2023 sworn to before T. Narayanaswamy advocate and notary Govt. of India

ಹೆಸರು ಬದಲಾವಣೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು - 560 089, ಹೆಸರಘಟ್ಟ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಕಾಡೇಗೌ ಅಂಚೆ, ಕೋಲುಚರಾಯನಹಳ್ಳಿ, ನಂ. 22/1, ರಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಸವಾಗಿರುವ ಮುನಿರಾಜು ರವರ ಮಗ ಸುಮಾರು 37 ವರ್ಷ ವಯಸ್ಸಿನ ಶ್ರೀ ಸಂದೀಪ್ ಕೆ.ಎಂ., ಆದ ನಾನು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯ ಪಡಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ, ನನ್ನ ಮಗನ ಹೆಸರನ್ನು ಚಿನ್ಮಯ್ ಕೆ.ಎಸ್. (CHINMAY K.S.) ಎಂಬುದರ ಬದಲಾಗಿ **ಅವ್ಯಾನ್ ವಿಶ್ಕತ್** (AVYAAN VISHRUT) ಎಂದು ಬದಲಾಯಿಸಿರುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.7.2023 ರಂದು ವಕೀಲರು ಮತ್ತು ನೋಟರಿ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ರವರಾದ ಹೆಚ್.ಕೆ. ಗೋಪಾಲಗೌಡ ಸಮಕ್ಷಮದಲ್ಲಿ ದೃಢೀಕರಿಸಿರುತ್ತೇವೆ.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SMT. SUNANDA .S,** D/o. Dodda Sonnappa, Aged about 52 years, R/at B. Thimmasandra, Sidlaghatta Taluk, Hemarlahalli, Chikkaballapur, Karnataka - 562 102 and also R/at No. 32, Sourabha Nilaya, 4th Main, Raghavendra Nagar, Riches Garden Main Road, Kalkere, Bengaluru - 560 043, Karnataka, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SUNANDAMMA .S** to **SUNANDA .S** vide affidavit dated 13.07.2023 sworn to before V. Srinivasa Reddy, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SHAKIRA ISMAIL,** W/o Mohammed Ismail, residing at No.496, 13th Cross, 3rd Stage, Pillanna Garden R. T. Nagar, Bangalore-560045, have changed my name to **SHAKIRA BEGUM** Vide Affidavit dated 15.07.2023 sworn before advocate and notary S.I. Balaguru, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, QRLA JANAKIRAMAN, Aged about 33 years, S/o, Janakiraman, residing at No. 99 Dhivya Nilya, 1st Floor, 4th A Cross, OM Shakthi Temple, Banjara Layout, Horamavu Agara, Bangalore 560043,, have changed my name to **J M PRANAV** Vide Affidavit dated 14.07.2023 sworn before advocate and notary Uday Kumar .K, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **ANTHONY RAJ ZITA CATHERINE** R/at No. 88, No 101 SR Park 1st A Cross Vijaya Bank Layout Billekahalli Bengaluru -560076 have changed my name to **ZITA CATHERINE** vide affidavit dated: 14/7/2023 Before Notary **K.V.Mani** Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **GAYATHRI MUNINANJAPPA,** aged about 56 years, W/o Lakshminarayana, R/at #102, Oil Mill Road, Anjaneya Temple Cross, 7th Cross, Aravind Nagar, St. Thomas Town Post, Bengaluru-560084, Karnataka State, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **GAYATHRAMMA MUNINANJAPPA** to **GAYATHRI MUNINANJAPPA,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **GAYATHRI MUNINANJAPPA** only, vide affidavit dated 15-07-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **B.V. NAGABHUSHANA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Ashwini Suresh Bagewadi R/at #C-MS-C-C604, 6th Floor, BEL Colony, Jalahalli, B'lore-13have changed my name from **ASHWINI MALAKAPPA HADAPAD** to **ASHWINI SURESH BAGEWADI** vide affidavit dated 29-05-2023 sworn before notary Netra Murthy M N, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MANZOOM R,** Aged about 29 years, W/o. Mohammed Mamoon Fahmi, No. 320, 2nd Floor, 16th Cross Road, Delmiah Circle, JP Nagar 5th Phase, Bengaluru - 560 078, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MANZOOM** to **MANZOOM R** vide affidavit dated 14.07.2023 sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate and Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Shivani Sandeep,** Aged about 14 years, D/o. Sandeep Hosabettu, Residing at No. G-1304, Brigade Gateway 26/1, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Malleshwaram West, Bangalore - 560 055, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **Shivani .S** to **Shivani Sandeep** vide affidavit dated 15.07.2023 sworn to before Smt. A. Manjula, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **IMRAN AHMED S/o Nisar Ahmed,** residing at No.9 old No.188/1, 2nd cross, Doddana Layout, Bangalore North, Arabic college Post, Bangalore-45 have changed my minor son name from **MUHAMMAD KAISAAN to MUHAMMED KAISAAN** vide affidavit dated 15.07.2023 sworn before Advocate and Notary L. Gopalakrishna, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **PAVITHRA VENU,** Aged about 18 years, D/o. Venu Gopalkrishnan Nair, residing at Flat No. 105, Aditya Sunshine Apartment, Near CMR Law College, OMBR Layout, Chikkabanaswadi, Bangalore 560043, have changed my name to **PAVITHRA V NAIR** Vide Affidavit dated 16.06.2023 sworn before advocate and notary Uday Kumar .K, Bangalore

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RAIN-DROPS & ROSES

RUBINATIONS
Rubi Chakravarti
Writer, actor and funny girl

IT'S wonderful hearing the pitter-patter of raindrops against your window pane, listening to 'rain' songs with a hot cuppa in one's hand. Everything cools down and the dust laden trees look washed and green. One searches for all those old nostalgic songs which invariably bring back fond memories. Those puddle-attacks wearing galoshes' and raincoats, and, when we were older, long walks with the present love of our lives. Giggling, talking, singing and eating….sigh!

Now let us pan to adult reality. Taking one's vehicles out in this weather is a nightmare! One cannot get from point A to point B without being deluged, caught in an instant flood in those death-trap underpasses, or be fearful of being totally submerged and having your back broken in a pot-hole (More like a sink-hole!). The poor people on two wheelers try to take refuge under any awning, while public transport miraculously disappears from our roads. As for the 'delivery-dacoits' (surely one cannot call them anything else), who have consistently raised their prices and have ridiculous surcharges when it even 'pitters' (forget about the patter), hold us to ransom to deliver food or medicines.

But again it is the patient 'swalpa-adjust-madi' ooruian who suffers while the 'men-in-white' nonchalantly go about governance by doing important 'works' like adding fancier cars to their menagerie or raising taxes, that change our money-making pubs into worthless hubs. Someone said that our state was a 'cash-cow' for alternate governance… well if there's no cash left then we have no option but to turn into the famous 'cattle-class'!

But, despite being drowned-out, most of Bengaluru preferred to chill out. New watering holes opened up nearly on a daily basis and it's heartening to see that the action is moving to the 'burbs too. Of course the rain played spoil-sport, so traversing over hill and dale to attend the opening was not on my cards, knowing fully well that going there again would not be possible either owing to the distance or otherwise.

Kiran Soans, a passionate gourmand and founder of the franchise World on a Plate has these regular pop-ups where he showcases chefs from all over the world. I wouldcallhim lapidarist. He collects these rare 'gems' (chefs) and showcases their talent in India. This time it was a young *MasterChef* finalist from Australia, Brenden Pang, an author and owner of his own restaurant.

Kiran Soans, Neetu Singh, Emma Halstrom and Chef Brendan Pang

Limor Bletter Dy Consul General Isreal, Surbi Sharma Hon Consul Spain & Dr Aloma Lobo

Brenden is a third generation Australian and he is passionate about bringing out the nuances of his Chinese ancestry through his cooking. Needless to say the packed restaurant, Zen, at The Leela was buzzing. I for one am chuffed that namma-ooru has become a melting pot of cultures and cuisines that bring out the uniqueness of our city.

I ache for the long forgotten 'high-teas' that was once the norm of our cantonment town. The Wedgewood China, the gleaming Charlies with plated savouries and sweet-meats… the scrumptious cakes, the paper-thin sandwiches aah! Well Reuben Kataria, my friend and GM of Four Seasons brought back all those old memories. The setting was at the pristine Lobby Lounge, overlooking the pool and herb garden, where my elegant lady-gang were treated to a spectacular afternoon replete with coffee, tea and conversations while they delicately nibbled on hot scones and blue-berry compote!

We can't let a little rain play spoilsport now can we?

(The writer's views are her own)

Game rewind: Don't Starve Together

ARE YOU GAME?
Anusha Ganapathi
@quofles

(This economics graduate spends her leisure time preparing for the zombie apocalypse)

WHY am I playing 'Don't Starve Together' a full seven years after its initial release? I told myself that it was because I had only ever played it's single-player predecessor 'Don't Starve', but if I'm honest there's really not all that much difference between the two.

Both versions are wilderness survival games, throwing me into a universe where I control a character, from up high in my isometric perch. Here on, I have just one goal, to keep this delicate character alive by feeding them and keeping them safe from the horrors that surround them. The days are relatively straight-forward, but packed. I calmly guide the character through a variety of spine-chilling hurdles to scavenge for food and resources. A few of these hurdles include hordes of bees, families of frogs, and a tree that's upset because I tried to axe it down. Food is the main goal. Apart from the occasional carrot or berry bush, a vegan diet in the game is unsustainable. But before we can hunt, we need a spear. And to build one, I need twigs, rope, and flint, all of which I need to find as well. Not to mention the wood for my campfire, which I need to set up before nightfall. After dark it's a different story, but I'll let you experience that for yourselves. And then this all happens again the next day. This time, we set out to hunt beasts for meat. The aim of the game is, after all – to not starve.

It's the regular rhythm of the day and night cycles that is the actual genius of the game. It's what hooks you. It makes you say, "Why not just one more night. I can build that Alchemy Engine, so that I can create an Opulent Pickaxe to smash down bigger rocks!" And with a tree of items to build, there's something that you're working towards every day and every night. It's a game you can spend an embarrassing amount of time on. I would know.

But this doesn't answer my first question. Why am I playing 'Don't Starve Together' seven years after its initial release when it's not really that different from the original?

Nostalgia perhaps. I hadn't played the game in a while, and I wanted to know what it felt like. It could be all different now, like walking back into your primary school decades after its all over. But not much has changed. So what? Who needs unpredictability and fresh experiences when you can seek comfort in friendly, pixelated landscapes!

Not that it's exactly the same. The game has gotten bigger. 'Don't Starve Together' now has a staggering selection of characters. When I first played the game, there were hardly three characters to choose from. And their "stats" were not significantly different from one another to create unique experiences every time I played it. But now, there are 20. Ranging from WX-78, an automaton that can upgrade itself but dies in the rain, to Warly, who has portable cookware and starter vegetables to keep himself stuffed, but hates anything that isn't gourmet. Some of them are more challenging to master than others, but on the whole, provide a varied experience to keep people coming back to the game.

If I am being honest though, none of these are the real reason I bought the game this week. As I write this article, 'Don't Starve Together' is priced at the lowest it has ever been, with a 66% discount on the Steam store. It is now only ₹156. Buying a single game allows you to gift it to one other person, who you can convince to play the game with you. You should, it's a fun game with friends. If the PC version is not for you, 'Don't Starve Together' is now on almost all consoles — including the Xbox, PlayStation, and Nintendo Switch.

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PRAJWAL DEVARAJ TO HEADLINE KALAI MASTER'S DIRECTORIAL DEBUT

The film will be produced by Prathibha, and shooting is scheduled to commence in October.

Prathiba

Kalai Kumar and Prajwal Devaraj

A SHARADHAA

NOTED choreographer Raja Kalai Kumar joins the ranks of technicians turned directors in Kannada cinema. The dance master is all set to wield the megaphone for Dynamic Prince Prajwal Devaraj's next.

Having begun his film career as a junior dancer and assistant, Kalai Master, as he is popularly known, has contributed 23 years to the cinema industry, with 13 years as a dance choreographer. Incidentally, it was during the pandemic that he embarked on the thought process of direction and came up with a storyline, and collaborated with a few writers for the project. Producer Prathiba, who previously bankrolled *1975*, and another yet-to-be-titled film, will bankroll this project as the third movie under the Rajalakshmi Entertainment banner. This upcoming film is expected to be a commercial entertainer with strong content.

The makers are planning to commence shooting in October and will begin preparations two months in advance to create a huge set where the entire shooting will take place. More details, including the title, the rest of the cast, and the technicians, will be revealed soon.

Meanwhile, Prajwal Devaraj, who has an interesting lineup of films including *Gana* and *Mafia*, which is getting ready for release, has also collaborated with H Lohith for another project and will join hands with Uday Nandanvanam for a Pan India project titled *Jaathare*.

Milana Nagaraj

Kousalya... highlights chauvinism in Krishna's gripping portrayal of a 'real man'

Director Shashank, on the sidelines of the trailer launch, shares why he chose Milana Nagaraj to be part of the principal cast

CE FEATURES

THE trailer of *Kousalya Supraja Rama*, directed by Shashank, was recently released at a grand event graced by Kichcha Sudeep. And based on the glimpse, which highlights 'The Tale of a Real Man,' featuring actor Krishna along with Brinda Acharya, Rangayana Raghu, and Sudha Belawadi, the film revolves around chauvinism. According to the director, the trailer merely reveals the premise and it will be more ex- citing to watch the story unfold in the theatre. Shashank further emphasises that male ego is one of the biggest issues in India. The film explores the question of what defines a man and this theme is conveyed through the story. "There is something deeper that strikes a chord and takes unexpected turns, as hinted in the trailer. We have only revealed the premise, and the complete plot will be even more captivating on the big screen," he says.

The trailer also reveals that Milana Nagaraj is part of the film, sharing screen space with her husband, Krishna, for the fifth time. Shashank's decision to cast Milana is solely based on her potential as an actor, the director says, "Her character is the most complicated and multi-dimensional, and I sought an actor who possessed both talent and experience, which I found in Milana. I would have considered casting Radhika Pandit if she was still acting and if the role suited her. But currently, only Milana could do justice to the role, and she has delivered an outstanding performance."

With Nagabhushana and Achyuth Kumar playing significant roles in the film, *Kousalya Supraja Rama*, bankrolled by Shashank Cinemas and BC Patil has Arjun Janya scoring the music.

Krishna

Siddharth Mahesh marks his directorial debut with an action-packed love story

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Siddharth Mahesh, known for his films, *Sipaayi* and *Garuda*, is gearing up for his first venture as a director.

Making the announcement on his birthday, Siddharth expressed his excitement, stating, "This new opportunity will bring my long-cherished dream of directing to fruition."

Having previously contributed to the storytelling process in *Sipaayi* and written the script for *Garuda*, Siddharth will now take on the additional role of a writer for his directorial.

Joining him on this journey is S Chandan, who will be bankrolling the project under the Atashree Media Creations and Orange Pixels banner. With the film currently in development, shooting is scheduled to commence shortly.

Siddharth Mahesh

IT couple Arnav Vinyaas, Rani Warad join forces in *Santhosha Sangeetha*

A still from the film

CE FEATURES

ARNAV Vinyaas and Rani Warad, a couple working in the IT industry in a 9 to 5 job, are pursuing their shared passion for cinema. The duo, who have previously worked in different films will be seen together in producer and director Siddu S's social family drama titled *Santhosha Sangeetha*, where they play the lead roles. The film's storyline revolves around elements of friendship, love, rivalry, divorce, and reconciliation, focusing on the challenges faced by a husband and wife when they work in the same industry, and the story aims to shed light on this aspect. For Arnav Vinyaash, this marks his third project, while Rani Warad is working on her second venture. The film is currently in the post-production stage and features senior actors, Doddanna, and Avinash, along with Laya Kokila, Kavan, and Amit in supporting roles.

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